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Campus Assembly minutes 12/04/2017

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Campus Assembly Meeting
December 4, 2017

I. Chancellor's Remarks.

"It has been a tumultuous time on campus over the past several weeks. Although I was out of the country for a couple of those weeks, I followed campus events. I note that this has been a difficult time on many campuses. One has only to listen to the news or read the higher education press to understand that we are experiencing a particularly difficult set of moments on campuses and in society more broadly. Higher education has been a particular target for those hoping to provoke unthinking reactions and outrage.

In some measure Morris is experiencing the fallout from these forces that are larger than our campus and at the same time we have our own sets of challenges. As we continue to think through and respond to external provocations, internal disquiet and upset, and our overall campus climate I hope that we can collectively be committed to ensuring that we do so in a thoughtful way.

I understand that some may be impatient for action. What is clear is that there is not always a straightforward or obvious path forward. Be assured that everyone on this campus, including me, is committed to making sure that Morris continues to be a place that honors and respects diversity and inclusion in all of the things that we do. At the same time we must also, at a minimum, determine how to balance First Amendment rights, civility of discourse, and ensure community members' safety. We want to do all of these things in a way that honors our commitment, as stated in our mission, to "...foster...collaboration, diversity, and a deep sense of community." We will continue to address and work on education around these issues through the spring.

It is in this environment that we are preparing to launch the search for our next leader in Equity, Diversity and Intercultural Programs (EDI) and Chief Diversity Officer as we anticipate Hilda Ladner's departure in January. This is a critical position for our campus and Hilda has led a number of efforts that have made campus a better and more inclusive environment for all of us. During Hilda's tenure we have strengthened our long-standing Multi-Ethnic Student Program, grown our International Student Program, and solidified support for our LGBTQIA2S+ Program. We've brought UMM's first US Department of Education TRIO programs to campus in support of students with first generation and low income backgrounds and students with disabilities, and secured our first federal Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions grant. This work supports an increasingly diverse student population and has been accompanied by new financial resources, diversified revenue streams, talented staff, and new and strengthened partnerships.

We will miss Hilda and her thoughtful and forward-thinking leadership. We anticipate someone joining us in that role in late spring or summer. You will receive an email from Sandy Olson-Loy, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, shortly inviting your help in identifying a member of our community to serve as an Interim Director of EDI and Chief Diversity Officer this spring during the transition.

As I mentioned at last month's assembly meeting, we have some budget realignment to accomplish for both FY 18, our current fiscal year, and FY 19, the second year of our funding biennium. I invite the community to an open meeting to discuss budget context and plans at noon this Friday, December 8th in the Science Auditorium. At the meeting we will discuss how we have arrived at this point with respect to our finances, and will provide a general outline of how we expect to deal with financial shortfalls in this and the next fiscal year.

I remind everyone that the final reading and conversation session for the semester will be Thursday, December 7 at noon in this room. The topic will be Innovation in the Liberal Arts. It is my intention to reconvene the campus community in early spring to summarize your conversations this fall and discuss next steps in the visioning and planning process. The visioning and planning process is meant to help us to work together toward ensuring that Morris has a vibrant, strong, and sustainable institutional future.

Finally, I want to end my remarks with good news. Morris is and continues to be an outstanding institution and one of which we all should all feel fortunate to be a part. Let me just highlight a few of the recent things of which we should collectively be proud:

We appeared once again on the 2017 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's (AASHE) **baccalaureate top ten list of sustainability leaders** - the only public institution on the top ten list.

This year, four of our students were **Fulbright award** grantees.

Morris was recently awarded a highly competitive Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program Grant by the US Department of Education to **prepare low income, first generation and other underrepresented students** for doctoral study over the next five years.

We continue to have a highly committed group of alumni and friends. Our 2017 "Give to the Max" day last month resulted in **Morris' largest ever result**, some two and a half times last year's total. In fact, Morris had the third highest fundraising total in the UM system, behind just intercollegiate athletics and the Carlson School."

II. For Action. From the Steering Committee. Minutes from 10/31/17 Campus Assembly meeting were approved as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

II. Old Business. From the Curriculum Committee. Course Change Proposals.

Janet Ericksen, interim VCAA/Dean, characterized proposed changes as minor, noting that these are coming to Assembly in a non-catalog year and that they not contested in Curriculum Committee. The suggestion to approve them as a slate was endorsed unanimously, by voice approval.

All proposed courses have provisional approval. To summarize, the course structure for Physics 3301 has been revised such that lecture and lab are two separate meetings. The proposed change to ANTH 2501 is a change to the number of credits for the course. The change to HIST 2451 will

take effect in fall 2019, since approvals that happen mid-catalog cycle will now take effect with the new catalog. ECON 4201 is a new course. IS 1091 has been updated to accurately reflect which semester it is typically offered. Other IS proposals are new courses. Arne Kildegaard clarified that every member of Campus Assembly votes on proposed catalog changes. Nancy Carpenter made motion to approve. Peter Bremer seconded. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

III. For Information. From the Dean's Office. Academic calendars for 2020-21 & 2021-22.

Janet Ericksen has some questions about these academic calendars as she finishes them up. As proposed (see attached), Saturday and Monday are now study days at UMM. UMN policy doesn't mandate a study day; some colleges on the Twin Cities campus don't schedule them and, in accordance with policy, exams may begin on Saturday. UMM is not in compliance with current policy. Janet reports no strong preferences about this; we could make a request to SCEP for three study days (Saturday, Sunday, and Monday). However, it is quite nice to have no exams on Friday, especially in the spring semester when Friday is a day for celebration and honoring before graduation.

Siobhan Bremer asked for student input about this change in the number of study days. Ericksen notes that UMTC CLA schedules no study days. Noah Pilugen offers that they find the long weekend to be useful, especially for finishing projects. Tiernan Lenius wonders whether current students recall having only the weekend to study for exams. Jessica Gardner wonders whether students will then object to having exams on Thursday. Gardner continues, saying that the extra days suit weekend work schedules as well as service to National Guard. Ericksen clarified that any change would not apply until 2021-22. Tim Lindberg (parliamentarian) notes that the policy changed in 2009 to apply to coordinate campuses: there may have been some oversights, since policies operate mainly on the TC campus. TC stipulates their finals period is six days long. Becca Gercken wondered whether anyone else remembers when Morris classes did not meet on the last day of the semester, and Friday and Saturday were study days? Ericksen noted that would eliminate one day of instruction and is probably not an option. Elena Machkasova cited current initiatives around mental health and wellness as good reasons to maintain Monday study day. Ray Schultz asked what would happen to spring semester's Friday schedule: if there are exams scheduled, they will overlap with events. David Israel-Swenson clarified dropping the final scheduled for 4-6 p.m. helped this issue, since otherwise, students had to petition to take the final early in order to participate in events – these petitions made for a long day for administrators. Peh Ng reminds people that there are 12 exam slots, three slots on each of the four days, and we simply didn't use the last slot on the final day. Jennifer Goodnough (chair of SCEP) states that the addition of Monday is not an oversight. SCEP was consulted when Morris voted to have a Monday study day. SCEP can grant an exception to University policy, and did that. Sandy Olson-Loy confirms that Monday was added because students didn't feel that Saturday and Sunday are study days, but the weekend. Ericksen took an advisory vote: by a show of hands, a majority of the Assembly supports three study days, i.e. maintaining the academic calendars as proposed.

IV. For Information. Summaries of Readings and Conversations 4 and 5.

Conversation Four: The Political Environment

Thursday, November 16, 11:30am-12:30pm

Facilitators: Rebecca Dean (Faculty); Peter Bremer (Staff); Sara Carman (Student)

This conversation was about the political context of higher education; partisan democrats see higher ed as more useful; republicans see higher ed as less useful. There were three themes to this conversation: 1) Are we experiencing a crisis or normal variation? 2) How do we face our branding problem? Should we continue to use the term, "liberal arts"? Does it have political implications? How do we prove our worth? And also ensure that we respect real concerns about the cost of higher education; 3) Silence: there were lots of things we didn't talk about, namely, that hard decisions we will have to make in order to balance the budget. Will we need to cut programs? We also didn't seem to want to discuss whether critiques are true: does cost outweigh the benefit of higher ed? Is it true that some students' perspectives aren't heard in the classroom?

Conversation Five: The Fiscal Environment

Tuesday, November 28, 11:00am-12:00pm

Facilitators: Lisa Bevevino (Faculty); Roger Wareham (Staff); Trey Goodsell (Student)

Notetaker: Tammy Berberi

A lot of discussion of the NACUBO white paper, about different models for innovation, collaboration. How can we think about cross-campus partnerships as a way to improve effectiveness and lower costs? Are all UMM programs sustainable? There was a lot of silence in this conversation, as well. Participants named a fear of job loss but talked about whether it would be possible to trim programs without cutting human resources. Participants cited a need for clear coordination and focus, as well as more communication. Should effectiveness and efficiency always be tied together? Can we undertake innovation without always considering cost savings? What do we need as a community in order to identify useful partnerships without feeling threatened?

V. Campus Committee Reports.

Rebecca Dean, Assessment Coordinator and Chair of ASLC, reminded Campus Assembly that fall program assessment reports are due on January 16, the first day of spring semester. There is an Assessment workshop scheduled for Friday, December 15th after the last final exam. There are also sample reports on the ASLC Moodle Page. Feel free to contact Rebecca or any member of ASLC at any time with questions about completing the report.

VI. All-University Reports. None.

VII. Adjournment. Motion offered and seconded at 5:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Berberi and LeAnn Dean, Steering Committee

2020-2021 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS CALENDAR – Proposal for SCEP

Fall Semester 2020 (73 class days)

August 17	Monday	Faculty return
August 22-25	Sat.-Tues.	New Student Orientation
August 26	Wednesday	Classes begin
September 7	Monday	Labor Day holiday
October 16	Friday	First half semester Classes end
October 19-20	Mon.-Tues.	Fall Break (no classes)
October 21	Wednesday	Second half semester Classes begin
November 26-27	Thurs.-Fri.	Thanksgiving Holiday and floating holiday
December 11	Friday	Last day of instruction
December 12-14	Sat.-Mon.	Study days
December 15-18	Tues.-Fri.	Final examinations

Spring Semester 2021 (74 class days)

January 18	Monday	MLK Holiday
January 19	Tuesday	Classes Begin
March 12	Friday	First half semester Classes end
March 15-19	Mon.-Fri.	Spring Break (no classes)
March 19	Friday	Floating holiday
March 22	Monday	Second half semester Classes begin
May 7	Friday	Last day of instruction
May 8-10	Sat.-Mon.	Study days
May 11-14	Tues.-Fri.	Final examinations
May 15	Saturday	Commencement

May Session 2021 (14 class days)

May 17	Monday	May session begins
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday
June 4	Friday	May session ends

Summer Session 2021

May 24-June 25		Summer Session I (24 class days)
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday
June 28-July 30		Summer Session II (24 class days)
July 5, 2021	Monday	Independence Day Holiday

2020-2021 Holidays (Total: 11) – Pending approval

July 3, 2020	Friday	Independence Day Holiday
September 7	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
November 26	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
November 27	Friday	Floating holiday
December 24	Thursday	Floating holiday
December 25	Friday	Christmas Holiday
December 31	Thursday	Floating holiday
January 1, 2021	Friday	New Year's Day Holiday
January 18	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
March 19	Friday	Floating holiday
May 31	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday

2021-2022 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, MORRIS CALENDAR – Proposal for SCEP

Fall Semester 2021 (73 class days)

August 16	Monday	Faculty return
August 21-24	Sat.-Tues.	New Student Orientation
August 25	Wednesday	Classes begin
September 6	Monday	Labor Day holiday
October 15	Friday	First half semester Classes end
October 18-19	Mon.-Tues.	Fall Break (no classes)
October 20	Wednesday	Second half semester Classes begin
November 25-26	Thurs.-Fri.	Thanksgiving Holiday and floating holiday
December 10	Friday	Last day of instruction
December 11-13	Sat.-Mon.	Study days
December 14-17	Tues.-Fri.	Final examinations

Spring Semester 2022 (74 class days)

January 17	Monday	MLK Holiday
January 18	Tuesday	Classes Begin
March 11	Friday	First half semester Classes end
March 14-18	Mon.-Fri.	Spring Break (no classes)
March 18	Friday	Floating holiday
March 21	Monday	Second half semester Classes begin
May 6	Friday	Last day of instruction
May 7-9	Sat.-Mon.	Study days
May 10-13	Tues.-Fri.	Final examinations
May 14	Saturday	Commencement

May Session 2022 (14 class days)

May 16	Monday	May session begins
May 30	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday
June 3	Friday	May session ends

Summer Session 2022

May 23-June 24		Summer Session I (24 class days)
May 30	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday
June 27-July 29		Summer Session II (24 class days)
July 4, 2022	Monday	Independence Day Holiday

2021-2022 Holidays (Total: 11) - pending approval

July 5, 2021	Monday	Independence Day Holiday
September 6	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
November 25	Thursday	Thanksgiving Day Holiday
November 26	Friday	Floating holiday
December 23	Thursday	Floating holiday
December 24	Friday	Christmas Holiday
December 30	Thursday	Floating holiday
December 31	Friday	New Year's Holiday
January 17	Monday	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
March 18	Friday	Floating holiday
May 30	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday