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Campus Assembly minutes 11/09/1999

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The Campus Assembly met on Tuesday, November 9, 1999, at 4:30 pm in the Science Auditorium.

I. Sam Schuman updated the campus on the LaFave house and the search for a Director of Admissions and Financial Aid.

Schuman said it is premature to take action on the LaFave house because they are still living there through 1999. The LaFaves and David Johnson have both mentioned that the house would make an excellent chancellor's residence, but Schuman feels any choices should wait a few months until a permanent chancellor is selected. He suggested that informal opportunities for input should take place late winter or early spring.

Schuman has decided to accept the recommendation of Sandy Olson-Loy and the search committee and end the search for a new Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at this time without making an appointment. Despite the solid efforts of the search committee, it was not possible to create a strong enough pool of candidates at this time of year. The current staff are doing an excellent job of recruiting next year's class, with applications coming in at a rate three times greater than this time last year. In addition, the consulting firm of Noel Levitz has been retained to address UMM's enrollment issues. They suggest that spring is a better time to search for a new director.

II. The minutes of the September 20, 1999 meeting were approved as distributed.

III. Aida Martinez will replace Shannon Hodges on the Student Services Committee. Sharon Van Eps will replace Sara Haugen on the Curriculum Committee at Haugen's request.

IV. Pareena Lawrence was elected to replace Paula O'Loughlin on the Executive Committee during spring semester. The Executive Committee will select a replacement for Lawrence on the Minority Experience Committee at their next meeting.

V. The Assembly discussed the schedule for approving the Scholars of the College slate under semesters. Two Assembly meetings have been set for spring semester, February 9 and April 6. February 9 is quite early to expect a slate to be ready (it cuts short the opportunity for faculty to evaluate students' spring semester work). But April 6 leaves little revision time before the April 9 printer's deadline. Nic McPhee endorsed the idea of adding an extra Assembly meeting in March. Roland Guyotte suggested having the Functions and Awards Committee (FA) distribute information earlier and take feedback outside of an Assembly meeting. Peter Whelan, FA chair, noted that in this first year under semesters, much senior work won't have been presented even by graduation. The FA will be revising their criteria and distributing it to the Assembly at the Dec. 6th meeting. Dian Lopez wondered why Honors Day
can't be moved back and Schuman wondered about honors being presented at graduation. Input to the FA can be sent via the funcaward listserv.

VI. Mike Korth reviewed the following items presented for action by the Curriculum Committee.

- Clarification of Foreign Language Requirement
- Ed 1111 Intro to Deaf Education
- Computer Science changes incl. new course.
- Economics changes incl. 4-credit course and major changes.
- History deletion and honors.
- Management major requirements, internship grading.
- Psychology 1061 prereqs and 1051 honors.
- Sociology/Anthropology add two honors, GER topics.
- ElEd and SeEd Directed Student Teaching.

Nic McPhee asked for clarification about a statistics course and Joe Timmerman explained that students will need both 2501 and 2611 courses. Roland Guyotte wondered why sign language is not a concurrent or prerequisite requirement for “Intro to Deaf Education” given the course's emphasis on learning about the deaf's language. The Curriculum Committee will investigate the issue, but all items were approved.

VII. Reports were offered from various campus groups. Eric Klinger noted that the Chancellor search is progressing nicely with several good applications being received. The search committee hopes to bring candidates to campus after Thanksgiving.

Jim Togeas reported that the NCA Steering Committee will ask the Assembly to review and possibly approve a summary of conclusions and recommendations from the Self-Study Report prepared by Tom McRoberts and staff. If the Assembly endorses the summary, the Self-Study will be finalized over semester break in preparation for the April 2000 site team visit.

VIII. Bert Ahern provided a senate report from the Education Policy Committee. They are exploring all-university versus campus policies, distance learning, and adjustments to the class schedule/calendar under semesters. Ahern welcomed reactions to the classroom guidelines currently being drafted.

IX. There was no old business. Under new business, Jim Olson of the Scholastic Committee passed out material on withdrawal/cancel/add policies under semesters. He asked the Assembly to consider the information and permit it to return for action at the Dec. 6 meeting. A lack of policy has been creating difficulty in the Registrar's Office. For example, without a new policy for half-semester courses, students are having to withdraw (based on the quarter policy) during Week 6 of the semester... before they've even had a chance to attend the class being dropped (which would start during Week 7).

Roland Guyotte asked if being permitted to withdraw from only one course mirrors current policy. Olson responded affirmatively. Jeff Ratliff-Crain
asked about refund schedules and Ruth Thielke explained that federal guidelines determine that. Simon Chabel asked about changing two-week windows to three weeks since some semester courses that meet fewer times a week won't have met 9 times until Week 3. Olson explained that UMM must conform to SCEP policy in some areas. Peh Ng added that if a student drops a course in the 3rd week of the semester, it becomes too late to add another course based on the amount of material already covered. She also noted, in response to the 4th column on Olson's handout, that an Intersession policy is currently being drafted. Tom Turner mentioned the need for sufficient time to appropriately place foreign language students and Thielke reminded the Assembly that students always have the petition process for withdrawing from classes.

Craig Kissock introduced visiting instructor Natalia Kuznetsova of the Chelyabinsk State Pedagogical University in Russia.

There was no further business and the Assembly adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Rebecca Webb