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Campus Assembly minutes 10/18/2000

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University of Minnesota, Morris

Campus Assembly Minutes

October 18, 2000

The Campus Assembly met on Wednesday, October 18, 2000, at 4:00 p.m. in the Science Auditorium. There was some variation in the order of the agenda items to facilitate election voting.

Jillian Evans questioned whether enough Assembly members were present. Count was conducted and there was indeed a quorum.

I. Elections

Elections were held to replace Shannon Hodges on the Executive Committee. Nancy Carpenter nominated Rickey Hall, second by Keith Brugger. John Bowers moved to cease nominations, second by Dian Lopez.

Election of USA Representative on the Executive Committee. Pareena Lawrence nominated Darla Peterson, second by Tim O'Keefe. Dorothy DeJager nominated Lynn Schulz, second by Mary Elizabeth Bezanson. Ballots were distributed. Darla Peterson will be the USA Representative.

There was some confusion regarding the selection of Parliamentarian. Greg Thorson will serve as Parliamentarian as reported in February 9, 2000 Campus Assembly minutes.

II. Chancellor Remarks

Sam Schuman commented on the communication from him to the campus regarding the search process for the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs position. Many people have responded; he invited those who have not responded, to please do so. In the very near future, he will decide what direction to move.

He invited Tom Johnson to talk about the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs search. Johnson reported the search committee membership consists of: Jill Farris, Pam Gades, Pieranna Garavaso, Tom Johnson (chair), Jooinn Lee, Andy Lopez, Carol Marxen, and Todd Neuharth. He thanked the committee for the tremendous work they have done so far, especially Melody Veenendaal who began a new job and has continued to support this committee. The committee met last April to receive their charge from the Chancellor and discussed hiring a Consultant to help with the search. The committee ultimately decided not to go that route. Ads were placed in the Chronicle of Higher Education, Women in Higher Education Advertising, and over 100 letters were sent to Chief Executive Officers asking for nominations. The total number of applications is very comparable to the last VCAA search. The committee has reviewed the files very carefully, dividing the applicants into three groups: top tier, middle tier, and bottom tier. The committee hopes to invite 4-5 candidates to campus for interviews, hopefully beginning the second week of November. Johnson invites input from the campus when the applicants are on campus. If you would like more information about the search, feel free to check out the search website www.morris.umn.edu/vcaa/.

The Final Report from the LaFave House Task Force was distributed to Assembly members by Maggie Dylla. Dylla's report included the Task Force membership: Robert Thompson, Vivian Heltemes, Dave Aronson, Jennifer Cushman, Arlene Beseman, Randee Hokanson, Maddy Maxeiner, Nancy Schuman, Adair Horgen, and Maggie Dylla (chair). The Task Force met four times and focused on possible uses of the LaFave House, property that was donated to UMM, located at 305 College Avenue. Input was received from the City of Morris Building Inspector, Sid Fossen, who indicated that the property is zoned for residential use, but that the house could be considered as an "accessory residence" even if the property is not continuously occupied by permanent residents. University Inspector Scott Holm

also meet with the committee and explained there are two code systems with the University Building structures. One code is "R" (residential) and "B" (business). The use of the property is what determines the code application; hence the requirements must be fulfilled to allow such use.

The committee reached the following conclusions:

1. Several members of the committee expressed great disappointment that U of MN policy now precludes designation of LaFave House as the Chancellor's residence. This reflects the need for consistent CEO housing policy among all three coordinate campuses. The committee as a whole feels that if there are changes in this policy in the future, UMM should revisit this issue.
2. The committee as a whole agrees that UMM should avoid plans for the house that are overambitious in terms of renovation and maintenance effort and expense, and the best way to do this is to limit uses to those consistent with the "R" classification.
3. A majority of the committee agree to the recommendation that the house to be used primarily as a venue for social and educational support functions by UMM personnel. Priority should be given to the Chancellor's Office and External Relations Office events. Other groups, including UMMRA and International Student Groups, would also be welcome to use the facility. Limited "guest quarters" may be made available to University guests, visiting lecturers/scholars, possibly faculty in need of short term housing, etc.
4. Major fixes include the firewall installations, enlarging the doorways to 32" for wheelchair access, and handicapped accessible bath and bedroom on the main floor, a ramp for handicapped access at the front door, asbestos abatement, lead paint assessments.
5. A "house manager" is essential to the smooth scheduling and operation of the property. It is advisable that a coordinator have office space at the house. This is acceptable use of the residence as long as the coordinator is doing regular work that is integral to the activities of the house.
6. The basement is off limits except for storage purposes.

III. Minutes of the April 6, 2000 Assembly meeting were approved as distributed.

IV. For information from the Executive Committee. Committee replacements.

Jenifer Cushman replaced Barbara Burke on Scholastic Committee

Mary Elizabeth Bezanson replaced Ken Hodgson on the Campus Resources and Planning Committee

Doug Reese replaced Dominic Greenfield on Faculty Development Committee

V. Status of 2001-2002 calendar.

Schuman explained that last year Peh Ng brought forward suggestions regarding the calendar. Schuman noted that Assembly doesn't get to determine the calendar, but he is concerned about their opinion. At the February 9, 2000 Assembly meeting, a straw vote was taken indicating the following preferences:

1. School should commence no earlier than Monday before Labor Day (2 to 1).
2. There should be a fall break and a study day even if that means finishing up less than a week before Christmas (4 to 1).

Peh reviewed the proposed calendars. Discussion began regarding the start day of the spring semester. Paula OíLoughlin was troubled by the symbolic statement that the Martin Luther King (MLK) Holiday becomes just a travel day if we begin the spring semester the day after MLK day. If we started school before MLK, we could actually celebrate MLK. Eric Klinger doesn't believe we should use MLK as a timing guide. He questioned whether 10-11 days is necessary for

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faculty orientation and workshops in the fall. Steven Burks questioned the pay periods and wondered if we could set our own. Harold Hinds thought the straw vote taken in the fall put us in extreme consequence for spring. Dimitra Giannuli believes faculty need winter break to allow them travel time to do research. Janet Erickson was curious about how strong people are in favor of having a 2 day fall break. A show of hands indicated 36 were not in favor; 31 were in favor, and several were indifferent.

Schuman said he hates to make important academic decisions based on what the Peoplesoft system allows. He offered the following suggestion:

1. Sam will take the responsibility for getting actual HR constraints from central administration regarding payroll.
2. For those who have concerns about the schedule, forward your suggestions to Peh Ng at semqna@cda.umn.mrs.edu

XI-Senators Report

Dian Lopez reported the Committee on Committees is looking for faculty and student representatives on the Student Affairs Committee.

Jeff Ratliff-Crain reported that Gwen Rudney will be replacing him on the FCC during his spring leave.

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. New Business

None

The Assembly adjourned at 5:20 p.m.