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Student Affairs minutes 09/29/2006

Student Affairs Committee

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**UMM Student Services Committee
Minutes – September 29, 2006**

Present: Dave Roberts, Adam Yust, Carla Riley, Dave Swenson, Michael Eble,
Brittany Jablonsky, Joe Alia, Mary Zosel

Absent: Sara Haugen, Corey Phelps, LeAnn Hedquist, Gail Hockert, Ronnie White Mountain

Guests: Sandy Olson-Loy

I. Minutes

MOTION: (Joe, Brittany) To approve the September 19, 2006 minutes as written.

VOTE: Approved (6-0-0)

II. Strategic Positioning Task Force (SPTF) Discussion

The SSC discussed the SPTF presentation and possible responses regarding their presentation. Michael Eble was interested to know what student SSC representatives were hearing from UMM student body regarding the changed focus from a public liberal arts college to a public honors college. Brittany Jablonsky believed the majority of the student body was unaware of a potential change, unless they were involved in campus committees that were discussing the SPTF report. Adam Yust agreed for the most part, but acknowledged some student discussion about the strategic positioning mandate as a whole. Yust said some students had expressed concerns about achieving all the listed objectives and concern over the order of buildings to be renovated. The suggestion was made that the campus community needs to be informed of the order in which each project has to happen in order for the next project to begin.

Dave Roberts asked the committee to identify specific statements they wished for him to bring to the SPTF forum on October 9. The committee discussed the proposal to call UMM an honors college. Carla Riley shared a concern of a UMM graduate that potential students would see UMM as an elitist college, beyond their reach. Riley noted the importance of careful marketing to be certain the message comes across that UMM is still a public liberal arts college available for all. Mary Zosel noted that Admissions counselors would need to carefully communicate that message as they meet with potential students. The committee agreed that they want a message sent to SPTF in support of the idea of UMM as a public honors college as long as the marketing and communication clearly identify UMM as available for everyone

The SSC then discussed the Student Support section, as found on pages 13 and 14 of the SPTF report. Dave Swenson recommended a statement to submit to the SPTF that summarized the SSC discussion. Swenson recommended that Roberts submit to the SPTF the need for UMM to develop a clearly articulated leadership experience for students through meaningful student employment and student organization leadership opportunities that allow students to develop the life and work skills they will need to be successful in life after college.

Roberts told the committee that he would prepare these comments to submit to the SPTF. Roberts would email his report to SSC members prior to submitting it to the SPTF so the SSC would have an opportunity to make suggestions or comments.

[Roberts later submitted the following SSC reviewed comments to the SPTF.]

1. We are supportive of the phrase "A Public Honors College". However we feel that there must be a concerted effort to make it clear that our program is appropriate for a wide variety of students, not just an elite few. Without the proper back up, there is the danger that the new slogan would cause some potentially successful students to not apply.
2. We feel that the section "Student Support" (pages 13-14) should give greater prominence to our wide variety of student groups and our many opportunities for meaningful student employment. Our ongoing commitment in these two areas is one of the reasons that we regularly lead the University system in student satisfaction ratings.

III. Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota

Dave Swenson reported that the Twin Cities campus' legal service was not available to UMM students since UMM's student service fee did not cover them. To make legal services more available for UMM students, tentative arrangements have been made with Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota (LSNM), an organization that provides legal aid in our region. The vast majority of UMM students would qualify for free legal aid from this organization. Students would need to verify their annual income, but parent income would not be considered. Dave Swenson was seeking SSC endorsement for this arrangement.

Don Hawkins of LSNM plans to spend one day per month at UMM to work with UMM students. This opportunity gives LSNM the opportunity to work with a client base they would really enjoy working with, and the arrangement would be free to UMM. Students seeking legal advice would sign up for a private appointment with the LSNM attorney. The Office of Student Activities would most likely coordinate the appointment scheduling.

Mary Zosel pointed out the critical need for confidentiality by the personnel making the student appointments. It might be something that should only be handled by a full-time staff member, not a student office worker. Zosel also mentioned the need for a private room for the student/attorney appointments. Swenson agreed with her suggestions and would look into having a staff member be responsible for the appointment coordination.

MOTION: (Joe, Michael) To endorse the arrangement between Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota and UMM.

VOTE: Approved (6-0-0)

IV. Subcommittee Composition

Dave Roberts informed the SSC of the makeup of additional subcommittees for their approval

a) Health Services Subcommittee (HSS)

Judy Riley, Chair
Henry Fulda, XO
Corrine Larson, XO
Gail Hockert, SSC representative
Mark Logan, faculty representative
Student, TBA
Student, TBA

MOTION: (Mary, Adam) To approve the HSS makeup.

VOTE: Approved (6-0-0)

b) Student Employment Subcommittee (SES)

Joe Alia, Chair and SSC representative
Julie Kill
Rita Bolluyt
Jessica Beyer
Mary Zosel, SSC representative
Ronnie White Mountain, student and SSC representative
Student, TBA
Pam Engebretson, XO

c) Dining Services Advisory Board

Henry Fulda, Chair
Dave Swenson, P&A staff
Mary Elizabeth Bezanson, faculty
Karen Ellis, Civil Service
Bonnie Tipcke, AFSCME
Nathan Giles, student
Jesse Pollock-Foote, student
Kim Schultz, XO
Donna Bauck, XO
Chris Seri, XO
TJ Ross, XO
Sandy Olson-Loy, Ad-hoc
Gary Strei, Ad-hoc

Roberts will send to SSC for an electronic vote the makeup of the SES and Dining Services Advisory Board since there wasn't time for a vote at this meeting.

[The SES and Dining Services Advisory Board committees were approved by electronic vote with six affirmative votes.]

V. Old Business

None reported.

VI. New Business

None reported.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 A.M.

Submitted Melody Veenendaal