

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Finance Committee

Campus Governance

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11-18-2021

### Finance minutes 11/18/2021

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# UMM FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

11-18-21 (via Zoom)

Members Present: Roger Rose, Brad Deane, Bart Finzel, Bryan Herrmann, David Roberts, Mary Zosel, Matt Senger, Marie Hagen, Shelby Maloney, Kendra DeRosa

Members absent: Lucas Granholm, Jennifer Deane

Others Present: Melissa Wrobleski, Melissa Bert, Jessica Dierks, Rebecca Dean, Kristin Youngblom

## **Approval of the meeting minutes from 10.28.21:**

The minutes from the last meeting were unanimously approved by the committee. Roger noted that Lucas is absent today and was wondering if the committee could record the meeting. The meeting will not be recorded but Bryan said he can connect with anyone if needed.

## **Discussion of Assessment & Campus Finance:**

Melissa Bert gave the Finance Committee background on accreditation. In fall 2019 there was a site visit from the Higher Learning Commission that evaluated responses for criteria for accreditation. One component, 5c2, was identified as an area we need to provide a report as part of the accreditation process. Component 5c2 asks for the institution to describe its means of linking its processes for the assessment of student learning, evaluation of operations, planning, and budgeting. Assurance review will happen in year 4 where the University will turn in a report documenting what has happened since the last visit. This will be due November 13, 2023.

Rebecca Dean then gave an update on academic and co-curricular assessment. The assessment of student learning for academic programs includes an annual report due every fall. There is also the assessment of academic co-curricular programs and student learning outcomes. This is a slightly different system but are both assessments of student learning. We currently have a third set of assessment for general education courses, which looks at all classes that fit a particular general education category during the semester.

Kristin gave an update on NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement), which includes 9 questions with 33 parts that apply to 16 different learning outcomes. These questions ask students what things they've been involved in during their time at college. With NSSE, we can see what all students are saying about how well they feel we are meeting those goals. This is compared nationwide to other schools. The last time we surveyed students was pre-pandemic spring 2020. The next will be spring 2023 with data released the following August.

Roger noted that in the past this committee has been involved at the campus level rather than the program level. Bryan said that looking at student data and thinking how it fits in overall budget is what the Finance Committee could do. Roger added that the subsets are what happens on campus and not just our committee, so we will need to think about what processes

exist already on campus as well as what the committee would do. Rebecca added that there are needs to provide evidence that this information is being distributed throughout the system. Bryan said that making connections between general education assessments and what it means in terms of investment shows how the campus is linking assessment of student learning data with financial decision-making.

Roger noted that the committee will be reviewing a list of existing ways in which we link assessment and student learning outcomes to budget conversations. David mentioned that a more forceful document to show the recommendations from the Finance Committee would be rather than the information included in the minutes. Melissa Bert said that some campuses have had little evidence whereas some have more content. Shelby said that we could tier the recommendations to show what the Finance Committee finds most important.

There was then discussion about having Chancellor Ericksen as well as Melissa Bert, Rebecca Dean, and Kristin Youngblom at a future Finance Committee meeting to discuss annual assessment results. Bryan said that the Budget Instructions come out in January and Position Budgeting will be done. A discussion with Melissa on January 20<sup>th</sup> would be helpful and a discussion with Chancellor Ericksen could follow. David asked for clarification on the Finance Committee's function and asked where we can contribute to campus as most of the semester has been reviewing Finance documents. Roger said that reviewing the financials of the University are important for us to be able to make suggestions. Brad added that it is the Finance Committee's responsibility to advise the Chancellor. Bryan said that we can make suggestions to the Chancellor at an upcoming meeting if she is available. Bart added that the committee isn't meeting enough to be able to make suggestions after learning the financials. A spirited conversation occurred resulting in the decision to have another meeting on December 2 to discuss the role of the Finance Committee.

Meeting adjourned