

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well  
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Consultative Committee

Campus Governance

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2-12-2019

## Consultative minutes 02/12/2019

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Consultative Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
2/12/19

Members present: Margaret Kuchenreuther, Brandon King, Julia Scovil, Adrienne Conley, Angie Stangl, Mike Cihak, Ann DuHamel

Members absent: Sarah Buchanan, Nancy Helsper, Esmira Aliyeva, Janel Mendoza, Isaac Hunt, Kristina Smith

Guest: Sheri Breen

- I. Approval of minutes from 12.11.18 (located in the Awaiting Approval folder)
  - A. Waiting for minutes to be reviewed and cleaned up before voting for approval.
  
- II. Discussion with Sheri Breen about issues on the table at the all-University of Minnesota Faculty Consultative Committee (FCC):
  - A. Updates on system-level. Representing 3 different groups: FCC is system wide group of faculty who deal with policy issues that come out of the committees and consult with the administration on a regular basis. Look at policies as they are undergoing changes. 10 voting members of FCC. Make-up primarily Twin Cities make-up. Sheri has one more on FCC.
    1. We have 3 Morris chairs on the FCC representing and chairing other senate committees. J. Goodnough of Senate committee on educational policy. J. Larson on Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, and Peh Ng is chair of Senate Committee on Faculty Affairs.
  - B. Also a member of Senate Consultative committee that includes faculty, student, and P&A and civil service committees. There are 20 voting members. Gathers once every six weeks. Main function of group is to set the agenda for the regular university senate meetings.
  - C. Also a member of the University Senate automatically on because of FCC. Have about 8 other members. It is the governance system of which policy is approved.
  - D. This is a transition year because of President retirement and appointment of new President. Transition team at university level working with her. The chair of the FCC, Amy Pettinger (UMM grad), is on the search committee and keeps us informed. No UMM members on transition team. Make up is mostly officials (alumni, foundation, etc.).
  - E. Provost Karen Hanson has decided to leave. Bob McMaster serving as interim between now and April. Hanson will be back April 1 and as soon as the new president is in and hires a new provost, Hanson will retire.
  - F. Board of Regents also dealing with recent transitions. Four new positions open. Three are running for reelection and one is not. Amari is running for re-election. Awareness of elections and discussion around regents.
    1. Have we talked to MCSA? This is in the works.
    2. Comes up in the House, but does Senate see it? Governor approves it.
    3. Alumni Association is involved.
    4. Sheri will work to communicate with us and Campus regarding elections.
  - G. Policy Issues: If there are concerns that need to be brought up on the radar at the

University level, don't hesitate to reach out to Sheri. Spend time discussing policies at great length. For example, the recent equity and access policy and online learning.

- H. Non-tenured faculty. Very many different categories. Strong discussion about ways to which to improve their lives. No policy coming out of this yet, but there is focus on it.
  - I. Freedom of Speech. Constant discussion. How do we restrict venues and security without restricting freedom of speech?
- III. VCAA & Dean Search
- A. We have been asked to look into the ways the search position was drafted, the way it was posted, and the policies concerning such searches. We were asked to then send an email to campus with our results. Can our committee help diffuse the fear and rumors? Notes, comments, and questions are below:
    - 1. There is too much unclear information circulating. What are the actual policies that pertain to this search?
      - a) For example, it does not appear that the following policy pertains to any positions below the level of Chancellor: [Hiring Senior and Other High-Level Leaders \(93xx\)](#). (To be researched)
    - 2. Some comments seemed to suggest that the position description was not intended towards a national audience.
    - 3. Sheri Breen is going to be the chair for this particular search. CC member Sierra Brown also on committee as a student rep.
    - 4. The search committee was delayed to fall 2019.
    - 5. Membership Committee can suggest VCAA & Dean committee make-up.
    - 6. Typically Consultative has been consulted in these types of searches before.
    - 7. Review begins immediately, as opposed to a firm deadline. If we are appealing to a national audience it seems that there should be a firm deadline for applicants.
    - 8. Process was intended to be similar to VCFF search.
    - 9. The hiring process documents is being simplified. There was an intent in following campus culture from previous search.
    - 10. A question was raised to specify if we were discussing if there were abnormalities in the search process or if careful consideration of campus climate/culture was not taken into consideration?
    - 11. Is input from the search committee required? The answer is, technically, no.
    - 12. There were some technicalities in posting. Those seem to not be a result of action from Morris, but in the posting themselves.
    - 13. What did previous posting of job description look like? At this time when discussing we did not know.
    - 14. Question raised: What can we do as consultative to assuage presented concerns?
    - 15. Recommended to meet with Chancellor Michelle Behr.
    - 16. Will search committee be involved in the framing of the position and timeline going forward? TBD

17. Hiring Faculty and Staff Policy (referenced above) may possibly be revised by time the search committee is in action in the fall.

IV. Discussion about Campus Assembly and Community Hour

A. Not adequate time for community discussion and ability to engage in dialogue across campus with each other

Respectfully submitted by Adrienne Conley