

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Campus Assembly

Campus Governance

4-30-2019

Campus Assembly minutes 04/30/2019

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Campus Assembly Meeting
April 30, 2019
Science Auditorium

I. Chancellor's Remarks.

“Good morning and welcome, everyone. The end of the school year is a time – even while we are pedaling as fast as possible to reach the finish line – to take a breath and reflect on the people and the work that make this institution what it is. As I do so, I want to again explicitly thank everyone for the passion you bring to the University of Minnesota Morris and to support for our students. In my mind, our work is a special kind of calling, one driven by our mission and our collective commitment to our campus’ values. The many celebratory banquets that mark this season remind us that we are doing great work and that we are fortunate to be surrounded and supported by our many talented colleagues. I know that we all care deeply about the work that we do and for this institution. So, thank you.

It is my pleasure this morning to welcome two new staff members who join us in key roles on campus:

John Hamerlinck, new director of the Office of Grants Development, holds a Master's degree in Social Responsibility, and brings experience with the Minnesota Campus Compact, with regional philanthropic organizations, and with grants management, as well as expertise in asset-based community development building.

Chip Beal, new director of the Native American Student Success program and Interim Assistant to the Chancellor for Native American Partnerships and Student Success, is returning to Morris. Chip was a Visiting Director of the Multi-Ethnic Student Program at UMN Morris in 2006-07 and has served as an external evaluator for our federal NASNTI and NSF grants. He served as Multicultural Affairs Coordinator, First Nations Studies Associate Professor and First Nations Resource Center Co-coordinator in two decades of work at the University of Wisconsin-Superior. Chip is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and has Chickasaw heritage.

And I'd like to note that two additional staff will join us on May 13 as Associate Directors of NASS...

Gabrielle (Gabby) Allen has served as Native American Center Program Coordinator at Fort Lewis College for the past three years. She has also served as Fast Forward Program Advisor at San Juan College where she worked with Native American students through their NASNTI grant. Gabby holds a master's degree from Washington University and a bachelor of arts from Dartmouth College. Gabby is affiliated with the Diné and Turtle Mountain Chippewa nations.

Nizhoni Marks is concluding 5 years as American Indian Programs Student Services Specialist at Scottsdale Community College on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community in Arizona. Nizhoni earned her master's degree from Northern Arizona University and her Bachelor' degree from Arizona State University. She completed doctoral coursework in

Indigenous Studies at Trent University in Canada where her curriculum was immersed in Anishinaabe culture. Nizhoni is a member of the Navajo Nation.

”

I know that each of them will become valued members of our community, and hope that everyone will make it a point to seek them out and make them feel welcome.

Finally, a reminder that Campus Assembly will meet again next week, May 7, as we work to bring to closure a number of important items before the end of the academic year.”

II. For Action. From the Steering Committee. Minutes from 4/2/19 Campus Assembly unanimously approved as presented.

III. For Action. From the Membership Committee. Proposed 2019-20 committee slate + changes below unanimously approved as presented.

Assembly Committee Changes/Delta

Changes proposed since the April 30 assembly agenda packet distribution are presented below

Constitutional Committees - For Information

Steering Committee

Sam Rosemark (1st term 2019-20) Student

Consultative Committee

Brandon King (2nd term 2019-20) Student

Julia Scovil (2nd term 2019-20) Student

Josh Westfield (1st term 2019-20) Student

Membership Committee

MATT ZASKE, CHAIR (2nd term 2019-21) P&A

Adam Schneider (2nd term 2019-20) Student

Core Standing Committees - For Action

Curriculum Committee

Elmurad Abbasov (1st term 2019-20) Student

John Barber (1st term 2019-20) Student

Julia Scovil (2nd term 2019-20) Student

Finance Committee

BRAD DEANE, CHAIR (2nd term 2019-22) Faculty

David Ayers-Moran (1st term 2019-20) Student

Maddie Happ (1st term 2019-20) Student

Planning Committee

Brandon King (1st term 2019-20) Student

Scholastic Committee

Mackenzi Marquette (1st term 2019-20) Student

Lily Pope (1st term 2019-20) Student

Student Affairs Committee

AUTUMN JOHNSON, [CO-]CHAIR, (3rd term 2019-20) Student

Maddie Kornely (1st term 2019-20) Student

Sydney Loechler (1st term 2019-20) Student

Other Standing Committees - For Action

Academic Support Services Committee

Anika Finzen (2nd term 2019-20) Student

Faculty Development Committee

PETER DOLAN, CHAIR (2nd term 2018-21) Faculty

International Programs Committee

Elmurad Abbasov (1st term 2019-20) Student

Mackenzi Marquette (1st term 2019-20) Student

IV. For Action. From the Functions & Awards Committee. Naming the outdoor stage on the campus mall.

Elena Machkasova said Cliff (C.J.) Benson (1906-1992) was an attorney and MN State Senator from Ortonville from District 48 from 1959-1962 and from District 24 from 1963-1972. Those districts represented Morris and a large section of West Central Minnesota. Sen. Benson was a key figure in obtaining and locating the University of Minnesota campus in Morris.

It is proposed to recognize the contributions of Sen. Cliff (C.J.) Benson by naming the Natural Stage in the UMM mall in his honor. It would be fitting that UMM commencement and other ceremonies and activities are centered in that location.

Comments:

Wes Flinn, our campus representative on the All University Honors committee said he contacted the committee to ask if they need to be involved in this process.

Student Angela Gudahl offered the following statement: “ Students, staff, and faculty. We cannot do both. We cannot be a campus that both strives to heal the wounds of our indigenous students, staff, and faculty while participating in this overt act of colonialism. An act of colonialism that has been used against indigenous people and the land that has held their

stories since the day today's U.S. first began to be colonized. We cannot acknowledge the first peoples of this land and this land's history while naming a piece of Dakota land after an individual who is not Dakota. With all respect to the donor and his family, this decision would not only be a slap in the face to indigenous people but a stab in the open wound historical trauma has left indigenous people. We cannot participate in a healing ceremony of this land and its history and in the same week strip away the name of the land and give it a new name in the language of its colonizers. This is not coincidentally the same thing that happened to the indigenous students that attended this campus before us as an American Indian boarding school. They too had a name, one in the language of their people, one that had held meaning, a story, a purpose, an identity. But to kill the Indian and save the man, (Robert E. Lee) their name was stolen from them, and they were given a new name in the language of their colonizers. The parallel is not accidental, it is a colonial tool that continues to traumatize indigenous people today. The campus assembly is today, MCSA students, faculty, staff, anyone who is able to vote. I urge you to not let this pass. If you care about the wounds of indigenous students here on campus, do not let this pass."

Jair Peltier echoed what Angela said. He thinks it would be inappropriate to name land after a white man on traditional Dakota land. We do not seek to disrespect the individual and he could be honored for his contributions just not in this way.

Amy Mondloch feels we would disrespect the Healing Ceremony if we move forward with this because we are talking about a place that is native.

Dave Israels-Swenson made a motion to table until the campus has had more time to think and talk about the issue. Tim Lindberg clarified that the motion is to indefinitely table and not permanently kill and this can be brought back to Campus Assembly. Motion to table unanimously passed by voice vote.

V. For Information. Update on HLC.

From Melissa Bert, Senior Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation Liaison Officer. "We've made significant strides in our accreditation-related efforts this year. And, of course, there is still more work to be accomplished.

The first item to discuss is our Quality Initiative. As a reminder, campuses on the Open Pathway are asked to create and implement a three year project focused on an area of need determined by each campus. Our Quality Initiative is "assessing, deepening and extending our work in providing a first year experience that fully engages new students, supports their college transition and success, and fosters their persistence." Three task forces - the Student Mental Health and Wellbeing group, High Impact Practices in the First Year group, and the Assessment of Retention Initiatives group - have been working on this effort since fall 2017.

Even though this is a three year effort, the timing of our site visit required that we submit our final report to the HLC last month. Last week we received notification that, as an institution, our project had put forth sufficient effort to "pass" this component of the accreditation process, which is great news. Although we have submitted our final report, our work on this project will continue through spring 2020, and some of the efforts shown to have promise in supporting student success will continue beyond that point.

Our second component is the Assurance Argument (which has replaced the old Self Study, for those of you that participated in our last accreditation effort). We submitted one of the five criterion for review to a peer reviewer at the Higher Learning Commission conference in early April, and received helpful feedback. In terms of next steps, Assurance Argument teams that gathered evidence last year will be asked to review drafts for their specific criterion, and the larger campus community will be asked to provide feedback prior to the site visit. We will also have external reviewers read and comment on the entire draft argument. Thank you in advance for your help in producing a document that clearly represents all of the good work happening on this campus.

Finally, our site visit will be on Monday, October 28 and Tuesday, October 29. We will be holding informational campus forums in early fall to share more about the site visit process and discuss details of the assurance argument, so keep an eye out for that. If you have any questions about any of these items, feel free to send me an email. Thanks.”

VI. For Information. From the Steering Committee. Amendments Group 4

As chair of the Steering Committee, Tammy gave a brief history of the process and documentation for group 4 amendments as outlined in the Campus Assembly packet. Voting will begin on May 8 and will remain open through May 21, as prescribed by the Constitution.

Comments:

Sarah Buchanan said the Consultative Committee is the only committee on campus with equal representation. It’s also the only place where people can come express ideas that are sensitive by nature without fear of recrimination. Most members of the Consultative Committee feel the committee should exist. If it is eliminated, there should be a committee with equal representation and a place for people to express their concerns.

Regarding International Programs Committee (IPC), we do not have a Study Abroad Office and IPC monitors many of those contracts.

As chair of IPC, Joe Alia said the committee has a unique role of promoting one of our campuses important missions – internationalization and education of students to be global citizens. The suggestion of making an *ad hoc* committee would simply create additional work. Who would determine that work and why wouldn’t the IPC just stay as is. The overall result might be more work and less transparency.

As chair of Academic Support Services Committee (ASSC), Wes Flinn said members of ASSC believe the services we provide will be continued and the necessary aspects of this committee will be folded into campus governance.

Elena Machkasova, Chair of Functions & Awards (F&A), expressed the following concerns about the proposed elimination of F&A:

- The current proposal does not reflect the amount or the essence of the work done by the committee;
- There wasn't much of an opportunity to explain what the committee does in preparation for this Campus Assembly;
- Who will do all the work?

In addition to deciding on awards and namings...

- The committee represents a variety of constituencies
 - more diversity in the opinions of people making award decisions and recommendations
 - it could use more representation from across campus divisions
- Coordinates timeline for nominations and review of them
- Serves as a focal point for various awards questions and issues
- Coordinates specific awards selection committees and juries (Research award - has to include all divisions, past winners, etc.)
- Sets criteria and process (major changes in the last 3-4 years: Research award, Stewart award, Sustainability award(s))
- Interprets criteria (SoC - edge cases; ~10 follow-ups out of 30 nominations this year)
- Creates new awards - may take years of discussion (Funding? Award ceremony? -etc.)

Foreseeable problems of dissolving the committee:

- Hidden work: other committees; ad-hoc groups.
- Proposal for Scholar of the College moving to Scholastic:
 - 4-5 hours of reading & discussion + follow-ups (in busy Spring semester!)
 - May lose diversity of SoC nominations: new forms of scholarship/artistic work take a lot of info gathering and discussion
 - If a separate group is formed for SoC, it will be at same time as URS and search committees and hard to form
- Ad-hoc groups:
 - Are difficult to form (people refuse - and diversity is not guaranteed)
 - Same people tend to be asked
 - Don't allow planning for service, don't go through Membership
 - Lose continuity, unless same people serve - do we need a standing committee?

Opportunities for collaboration

- This committee could use administrative support, but it doesn't mean that its functions are purely administrative
- Some awards can be passed on to other committees
 - Ie. Bill & Ida Stewart award -> MEC, but any changes still would need to be consistent and reasonable
- Scholastic committee could set the criteria for scholar of the college with input from F&A about trends in undergraduate research
- The mere fact that UMN Morris has a different committee structure than other colleges doesn't mean it's not working.

Rebecca Dean, Chair of the Assessment of Student Learning Committee (ASLC) said go ahead and dissolve the committee – she's okay with it. She assured Campus Assembly that the

committee has already has plans. The ASLC did a lot of administrative work of getting reports, receiving feedback, etc. Most of our policies have had to go through the Curriculum Committee. As an example, CSLOs are now in the hands of the Curriculum Committee and they will finalize and send off to Campus Assembly.

Janet Ericksen agreed that IPC could be dissolved. The committee was created before we had the ACE office and now much of that work seems overlap. We have someone in ACE who is our liaison.

As the faculty coordinator for study abroad, Sheri Breen said she disagrees with Janet. If we dissolve IPC, there are things that are done without that committee that cannot be farmed out in an efficient way.

Sam Rosemark, MCSA President, believes we all feel that we do a lot of work and feel overworked and many of us are on many committees. He believes this a good move in the right direction to redistribute the work more efficiently.

Roland Guyotte called for point of order. The discussion will continue at the May 7 Campus Assembly meeting.

VII. For Information. Strategic visioning planning and discussion.

Chancellor Michelle Behr said the cover memo in the Campus Assembly packet explains the process.

Three documents are included as background materials and for the discussion in Campus Assembly:

- The SVP Framework, a summary of our mission, vision and the eight aspirational statements;
- A compilation of the work completed by each of the spring 2019 taskforces, as amended after campus feedback, with numerical support indicated for the high level (“gold”) items garnered through the feedback process and an evaluation of relative priority (High, Medium, Low) by each taskforce;
- A document that extracts the top ten “gold” (i.e., high level) recommended actions based on the votes from the campus community, irrespective of the particular aspirational statement that was its source.

The top ten recommended actions indicated in the third document will form the basis for priority work by the appropriate administrative offices and governance committees. And it is this set of action steps that I ask Campus Assembly to endorse.

We have four additional aspirational statements that we will take up in the fall and anticipate there will be some overlap with those as well.

Comments:

Mary Elizabeth Bezanson asked for clarification of where the priority letters came from and she reminded assembly members that the 712 documents control tenure promotion on this campus (regarding 3.1.B faculty expectations).

Nancy Carpenter asked if endorsing the gold statements also means we are endorsing the sub headings de facto? Chancellor Behr said it was up to offices and committees to incorporate as many of those that make sense.

Kristin Lamberty wanted to clarify that we are looking at the main goal statements and the sub items are suggestions, not necessarily a checklist.

The discussion will continue at the May 7 meeting.

VIII. Announcements

None.

Campus Committee Reports

Rebecca Dean said the ASLC is working on revisiting the CSLOs after holding many forums. The comments have been passed on to the Curriculum Committee to determine what they want to do with the information.

Steering Committee

Tammy Berberi announced the committee chairs meeting will be held on Thursday, May 2. If you are new or current committee chair, please plan to attend.

All University Reports

None.

Adjournment at 12:37 pm.