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Campus Assembly minutes 12/1/2015

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Campus Assembly Meeting
December 1, 2015

I. Chancellor's Remarks.

Chancellor Johnson gave the following remarks: "I will start today by talking about the weather and want you to know it would be a rare occasion that we would cancel classes. My rule of thumb is if the Morris transit buses are running then we will probably be on time and on schedule. Several of us do communicate at 5:00 am to do an assessment of the weather and make a determination. I will tell you that there is no good decision when it comes to bad weather. By the way, when I walked to my car last night, it was cold, dark and icy and I was thinking to myself that I know I have a scraper and I know it is not in my car. When I got to my car, someone had scraped the windows for me. It was either someone who was really, really nice or someone who thought it was their car.

Today was International AIDS Remembrance day and I had a chance to read some of the names in the Morrison Gallery today. It was moving and thought provoking and I'm grateful to those who planned the event.

It seems like a long time ago--it really wasn't—but I do want to acknowledge the visit to our campus of Katrice Albert, Vice President for Equity and Diversity and two staff members. I also want to thank the students for encouraging us through their actions to focus on the need to continue our efforts to both attract and retain a diverse group of faculty, staff, and for reminding us all of how important this is particularly given the diverse characteristics of our student body. While there are a number of steps that we have taken over the course of the past several years—diversity training; our use of the Bridge program centrally funded to support faculty hires, our success in the pre-doctoral program in bringing Ph.D. candidates to teach on our campus, the expectation that we will host a hiring bias workshop in the spring—and more—there is clearly more work to be done, and I so appreciate the fact that we are able to come together, consider these issues, and speak with each other about them in a respectful way. So thanks to the students who organized, to the Black Student Union for the event they sponsored to show alliance with students at the University of Missouri, and to the Multi-Ethnic and Diversity Committee for organizing the DiversiTea—there were essay questions that we were asked to consider and discuss.

There are lots of end of the semester opportunities for engagement—senior seminars and capstones; performances; athletic events ... and then, finals."

II. For Action. From the Steering Committee. Approve minutes from 11/4/15 Campus Assembly meeting approved as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote

III. Old Business.

None

IV. New Business.

- A. **For Action. From the Curriculum Committee. Curriculum program changes approved as presented. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

Division of the Humanities

New Courses:

HUM 1006 – From the Caesars to the Saints: Walking Ancient Rome (4 cr; HIST)

HUM 1801 – Talking About Love, War, Gods, and Politics with Greeks And Romans (2 cr; IC)

SPAN 1802 – U.S. Latin@ Literature Culture (4 cr; IC)

Revised Course:

PHIL 1803 – How to Think About Weird Things (4 cr; IC)

Reactivate Course:

CMR 3311 – Social Uses of the Media (4 cr; E/CR)

Division of the Social Sciences

New Courses:

ANTH 2002 – Learning from the Dead: Introduction to Methods in Archaeology and Biological Anthropology (2 cr, SS)

ANTH 3251 – Health and Human Ecology (2 cr, ENVT)

Course Revisions: ANTH 1103, ANTH 1201, ANTH 3206 (inactivate), HIST 2003, MGMT 2101, MGMT 2102,

Interdisciplinary Studies

Inactivate Course:

IS 3243H – Honors: Dialogues and the Ancient World (2 cr, HUM)

B. For information. From the Steering Committee. Campus Assembly dates for spring semester:

Wednesday, February 17

Tuesday, March 22

Thursday, April 21

V. Campus Committee Reports.

A. For Information. From the Functions & Awards Committee. Process for Faculty Distinguished Research Award.

Elena Machkasova, Chair of Functions & Awards, presented the following information regarding the proposed changes for the award. Please send feedback/comments to Elena.

What? A proposal for changes in the Faculty Distinguished Research Award.

History: The award was established in spring 2000 and the six initial recipients were selected.

The expectation was to be awarding one per year after that.

Role of Functions and Awards committee: “Functions and Awards committee develops and recommends awards for scholarship and special merit” from the committee charge. We are recommending these changes to the Dean’s office.

Status of proposal: Developed by the F&A committee, endorsed by the Dean and Division Chairs, and has been shared with the current selection committee members (and received generally positive feedback).

Reason for presenting at the assembly: For information and feedback.

Rationale for changes?

http://www.morris.umn.edu/services/acad_affairs/Faculty_Research_Award.html

There are 37 tenured female professors and 36 tenured male professors at UMM. The award does not reflect the gender diversity. There is anecdotal evidence that some faculty are unwilling to invest into the nomination process since they don’t feel that they fit the “expected profile”.

Summary of proposed changes:

1. The makeup of selection committee.

a. Currently: 6 most recent award winners.

b. Proposed:

i. Five full or associate professors (total) are invited by the F&A committee to serve.

ii. At least two are past award winners.

iii. Represent all four divisions.

iv. Represent diversity of UMM campus.

2. The role of Division Chairs.

a. Faculty can be nominated by anyone, including be self-nominated (no change).

b. After names are put forward, nominating committee is formed and prepares a dossier (no change).

c. Nominations (names) are submitted to the nominees’ Division Chairs. At the deadline, the Division Chairs send nominations to the F&A committee (slight change: used to be sent to the F&A committee and DC at the same time).

d. Rationale: Division Chairs are ideally positioned to encourage strong candidates to be nominated.

3. Change in the supporting materials.

a. Currently includes: no more than 10 supporting letters from students, faculty, administrators, and non-University references.

b. Proposed: At least three and no more than six supporting letters from faculty colleagues and

experts in the candidate's field. At least two of such letters must be from non-UMM experts. The letters are valid for three years.

Next steps: we welcome your feedback. We will be sending the full proposal to the FACPA list for further feedback. The F&A committee will discuss suggestions and put together the final proposal for the Dean. If the general sense from the campus is positive, we would like to send out a call for nominations according to the new proposal.

B. Planning Committee

Engin Sungur gave the following report, "As you know UMM's Strategic Plan is dated 2006 and includes the title of public honors college. The plan was reviewed with a progress update in 2013, and strategic priorities for 2016 were determined in 2015.

The Planning Committee is working on a process to create a living document that will be assessed, updated, and revised annually with the input from UMM Campus Community, including committees, academic and administrative units.

Objective: Recognizing the limitations of any strategic plan, create a culture at UMM in which strategic thinking and careful, timely decision-making based on information/ data are the norm.

C. Consultative Committee.

Jayne Blodgett along with Julie Eckerle, Co-chairs of Consultative, will be asking for input from the campus regarding service loads. Over the last few years, individuals from a number of different constituencies on campus have brought concerns to the committee about campus governance.

Although these concerns may be attributable to perception, rather than reality, there is no doubt that they contribute to lower morale on campus and, in some cases, individual decisions to stop participating in campus governance and other kinds of service altogether. Consultative Committee members have also pointed out that these concerns involve equity (whose voices are represented? Whose workloads are too heavy? etc.) and have ramifications for individual promotion, health, and job satisfaction, among other things.

In the course of our conversation about these concerns, we have been brainstorming about ways to, first, better articulate these problems and, second, to develop approaches to solving them, in addition to rejuvenating the campus spirit around campus governance. However, we fully believe that we need to gather more information first from all campus constituents.

VI. All University Reports.

Peh Ng reported that SCAFA recently discussed the results of the engagement survey. We need to think about how we use those results to make changes and she hopes the campus will be proactive in making changes. Chancellor Johnson added there will be an opportunity for us in the spring to have listening sessions around some particular items in the survey.

VII. Announcements.

A. General announcements

- Bart Finzel reported as part of the Higher Learning Commission Pathways for reaffirmation of accreditation, we were asked to decide which pathway to choose—the Standard Pathway or the Open Pathway. We choose Open Pathway which requires us to designate one major improvement effort to be undertaken as its Quality Initiative for reaffirmation of accreditation. The Quality Initiative should suit the institution's present concerns or aspirations, and takes place between years 5 and 9 of the 10-year Open Pathway Cycle. Some examples of potential proposals include: academic advising; assessment; center for teaching and learning; online; and first-year experience. This will involve the entire campus. If you are a committee chair and think that your committee should be involved, please contact Bart.

- Kerri Barnstuble, Coordinator for the Commission on Women, reported that the focus this semester has been the parental leave discrepancy between employee groups. Faculty and P&A receive six weeks paid leave while Civil Service and AFSCME employees only get two weeks. She believes our Teamster colleagues may have reached a

tentative agreement that includes six weeks paid leave. She encouraged people to wear green on Fridays to show support to our AFSCME colleagues.

- Ben Iverson, Director Admissions, announced the dates for the Community of Scholars: February 5, 6 and 13. We have added an additional day this year to accommodate almost 400 prospective students. Please watch for additional information.

B. Update from Chair of the Chancellor Search Committee

Peh Ng reported that based on the listening sessions held in November, a leadership profile was created and the position description along with the profile has been posted.

The following timeline has been established:

November 3-4, 2015, Search consultant on campus to meet with core constituents

Mid-November 2015, Leadership profile prepared

November 19, 2015-February 22, 2016, Aggressive national recruitment targeting potential candidates

Week of March 7, 2016, Off-site interview of semi-finalist(s)

March 21-April 1, 2016, Anticipated on-campus interview of finalist(s)

April 2016, Announcement of appointment

C. Update from MCSA

Ellery Wealot, President of MSCA, reported that many things have been accomplished this semester including: trash sorting educational campaign; tech fee applications are open; started a conversation about funding for licensing renewals and different avenues to fund those; working on a resolution for gender inclusive restrooms; a resolution opposing tuition differential was voted down; a mixer between students and administration; fundraiser at Pizza Ranch; plans to lobby for bonding for updates to our buildings; participated in Founders Scholar Forum; Wellness Week in October; cougar paws were sold in the Student Center; and finally, MCSA now has Twitter and Instagram accounts.

VIII. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 5:30 pm.