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Consultative minutes 9/22/2009

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Minutes
Consultative Committee
September 22, 2009
Imholte Hall 218
8:00 – 9:00 AM

Present: Jon Anderson, Nancy Carpenter, Brad Deane, Attina Earl, Jen Zych Herrmann, Paula O'Loughlin, Matt Privatsky, Sydney Sweep, Sharon Van Eps

Absent: Ron Kubik, Jane Kill, Laura Thielke, Zak Forde (on fall internship; replacement likely to be elected through MCSA)

Minutes from 2 Sep 2009 were approved.

We have tentative meetings with Dean Contant on October 13 and November 10.

We have tentative meetings with Chancellor Johnson on October 27 and December 1.

The email solicitation for committee action yielded 5 items:

1. Shortage of Bicycle Racks

An email from a student mentioned the shortage of bicycle racks on campus. The CC (consultative committee) will forward this issue to Lowell Rasmussen. We also advised the issue be brought to the Student Services Committee and to MCSA.

2. Constitution

One email expressed concern that our new constitution was not being effectively processed to achieve timely ratification. Chancellor Johnson got the Constitution back from Provost Tom Sullivan and VP Robert Jones. The constitution needs to be sent through the approval process at campus assembly meetings, but the campus also needs to develop a transition plan till ratification occurs. We also discussed that a process or plan deserves consideration as proposals for revision occur during ratification. The CC will arrange meetings with the Executive Committee to assist in this process.

3. Potential Smoking Ban

The group was not sure exactly what action should be taken on this issue. The CC asked Jen Zych Herrmann to follow-up with the email writer to arrange a time for her to present findings and plans to the CC, if that indeed is what she desires. The Campus Assembly and appropriate assembly committees will need consultation as this issue moves forward.

4. Perceived Lack of Communication

We received an email from a faculty member with concerns about the lack of communication and timely action from UMM administration. We will discuss the concerns in this email with Dean Contant and Chancellor Johnson at their upcoming meetings. Students on campus are still concerned and confused about what they are really supposed to do if they become ill with influenza. The policies and procedures are not clear, and do not appear to be followed as they have been written.

5. Improvement in Work Study Funding

The primary concern in this email was with the lack of work study employment for international students, but the CC thought this was an even wider issue regarding student employment. We will discuss with Jill Beauregard, Financial Aid and investigate this further, especially with respect to how stimulus funds are being allocated to student employment.

Another issue discussed at our meeting was the process by which the Assistant Dean position was filled, and the definition of duties of the Assistant Dean. Is this documented or stated anywhere?

The lack of a Scholastic Committee was also discussed. When will it be formed, and when will there be a campus assembly meeting to form the committee?

The Chair of CRPC asked for advice from our group about the upcoming revision of our strategic plan. Our response was the CRPC should take the lead on developing this revision, but there should be ability for other groups to provide feedback.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Anderson