

University Cabinet Minutes
January 20, 2012

Present: Lynda Bertsch, Max Buchholz, Libby Claerbout, Linda Cresap, Lisa Eriksmoen, Patti Fedje, Brian Foisy, David Fuller, Russ Gagnon, Dale Gehring, Kevin Harmon, Rick Hedberg, Dick Jenkins, David Klassy, Roger Kluck, Lenore Koczon, JoAnn Linrud, Teresa Loftesnes, Holly Major, Wes Matthews, Annette Mennem, Susan Ness, Neil Nordquist, Beth Odahlen, Cari Olson, Leon Perzinski, Rebecca Porter, Marv Semrau, Carlos Soza, Vicki Troftgruben, Doreen Wald, Kris Warmoth, Jonelle Watson and Deb Wentz.

Absent: Brent Askvig, Stephen Banister, Caren Barnett, Conrad Davidson, Cathy Horvath

Guests: Shan Haarsager, Anton Huether, Jane laPlante, Mary Mercer and Nancy Mickelson

Approval of minutes: minutes of the November 16, 2011 meeting were approved as written

New Business

1. Senate Reports:

Faculty Senate

The general ed ad hoc committee will have a proposal to review soon; senate has discussed workload issues; overload policy, credit hour loads, handbook review, and credit hours needed to earn degrees

Staff Senate

Reviewing bylaws, scholarship committee has been busy and is preparing to award scholarships, thanks to everyone who donated to the service project by supplying baked goods for faculty and staff affected by the flood.

Student Government Association

Reviewing results of the advising focus groups, redraft of the constitution, and many events taking place for students

2. Enrollment

We are about 9% down from opening day last year. International student enrollment is up while all other areas are down. The MAFB enrollments had one of the largest decreases due to a large deployment. Will need to look at some other demographics in the report and find out why the loss in students.

3. Budget & Finance

We will not have a definitive deficit figure until after all drops and adds deadlines are past which will be February 28th. At this point it does look as though there will be a \$1.4 million deficit. We have taken some positive steps to help address this such as holding off on filling vacancies and delaying the purchase of any large ticket item. SBHE has been notified of the deficit and were also advised that we would be

seeking financial support from the emergency commission. Local legislators will be contacted as well. We are still working with FEMA to recoup some of the expenses we incurred due to the flood.

4. Wellness Center

The SGA advocated and argued for the need to have a quality wellness center and the student body voted in favor of supporting the new center. This was truly a strong student initiative supported by student fees so the usage will be only for students. The Dome will continue to house a few machines for employee use but the new facility is strictly for students. The climbing wall should be completed around the middle of February with the whole center done by April 12th.

5. Student One Stop Center

We are getting close to a final version of this. Roger has been working with those individuals and departments that will be directly affected. Once a plan is agreed on it will be presented to all senates, cabinet and president's staff for review before construction begins.

6. City Proposal

We did have a good outcome for our request for city funds to help update our facilities. The Council did approve \$1.2 million for the next five years. Second reading of the proposal will take place at the next council meeting. There is some confusion in the community about what the funds can and cannot be used for and this generating some negative comments about our request. Please help to clarify any misconceptions out there regarding our request.

7. Campus Conversations/Engagement

We have met a lot of the Vision 2013 strategies and now as we move forward we need to reassess and define new directions for beyond 2013. The Planning & Budgeting Council will be determining a process on how we will go about gathering this information and determining where it leads us.

Where do we start? How should hold these meetings/conversations? What do we need to focus on? How do we foster engagement?

- a. Understand CETL's role on this campus
- b. Everyone is so busy on this campus – how do we fit engagement into this
- c. No one knows what engagement looks like or how its defined
- d. How do we promote activities to get people involved
- e. Students need to be a part of these conversations as well
- f. Maybe the bigger question is why would students want to be engaged? Why would a student attend an event?
- g. Need to know who you are first – what defines this university
- h. Students need to feel ownership of their groups/events – very fine line between showing support and yet allowing them to maintain ownership
- i. Define groups – traditional vs. non-traditional – how do they engage? Where are students at in their particular phase of life
- j. Need to answer the “what's in it for me” questions – needs to have an intrinsic value
- k. There are so many opportunities for engagement may be competing for the same students

- l. Even if only a few students attend an event does not mean that the event did not make a difference for them – students will choose to attend those events that have value to them
- m. This is not just a student issue – how do you engage faculty and staff
- n. What type of student do we want and what type of student will we get?
- o. Have to have reasonable expectations
- p. Define what engagement is for the MSU environment – showing each other respect by attending events on this campus. Be a part of the life on this campus

8. Announcements/Acknowledgements

These were previously distributed for cabinet review

9. President's Report

Much has taken place since our last meeting. Items to note:

- o Budget & Finance
- o Interim Higher Education Committee
- o NCAA National Meeting
- o SBHE – Managing Results through Efficiencies
- o SCE
- o Advising
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Meeting adjourned at 11:00.

Respectfully submitted, Deb Wentz