

University Cabinet Minutes
December 18, 2013

Present: Brent Askvig, Stephen Banister, Caren Barnett, Lynda Bertsch, William Chew, Libby Claerbout, Conrad Davidson, Lisa Eriksmoen, Brian Foisy, David Fuller, Russ Gagnon, Laurie Geller, Kevin Harmon, Rick Hedberg, Cathy Horvath, Alysia Huck, Dick Jenkins, Lenore Koczon, Teresa Loftesnes, Holly Major, Wes Matthews, Devin McCall, Annette Mennem, Jacek Mrozik, Kevin Neuharth, Neil Nordquist, Beth Odahlen, Cari Olson, Leon Perzinski, Rebecca Porter, Josh Sandy, Derek VanDyke, Doreen Wald, Kris Warmoth, Jonelle Watson, Laurie Weber, and Deb Wentz

Absent: Gerri Kuna, Christine McIntosh, Gary Rabe, and Marv Semrau

President Fuller welcomed Alysia Huck, Director of Public Information to the cabinet group.

Approval of minutes – minutes of November 20, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

New Business

1. Senate Reports

Faculty Senate

Sympathy was extended to Frank McCahill, assistant professor in Humanities, over the loss of his mother this past week. Congratulations to Josh Sandy and his fellow classmates on their public forum held yesterday in which they shared the results of their flood survey about people living in the flood plain, two years later and the difficulties they still face. Faculty Senate and Staff Senate as well as SGA, conducted a survey regarding the use of the Wellness Center, specifically for faculty and staff usage. CCF is studying the issue of open source textbook as directed by the legislators during the last session. CCF is also putting together a proposal for permanent research funds generated by the petroleum tax. Funds would be available for all NDUS campuses. This recommendation will be forwarded to the NDUS soon. Faculty Senate is looking into the CEL committee – a lot has changed since this committee was established. An ad hoc committee is examining faculty hiring guidelines. The general education centennial curriculum web site is open and senate is seeking proposals so they can get this up and running in fall 2014.

Staff Senate

The office decorating was a great success. There were 14 offices that participated this year – the most participants we have ever had. Staff is looking at conducting another silent auction sometime during the spring semester. Staff members are working on a Be in the Know session to explain benefits and other perks for staff members.

SGA

Students are excited that they can use Office 365 for free. Intra mural committee has been working with the Wellness Center to be more engaged with their activities. SGA has been working closely with Sodexo to let them know what students are looking for as far as food choices. Minot State will host the NDSA

February 21 – 22. SGA supports the proposal for installing blue lights on campus. SGA is looking forward to participating in the Days of Service events in January.

2. Pathways/NDUS

NDUS personnel and campus members are looking at details of the Pathways plan. Any changes to the plan will be driven by data. It does appear that some details will need reevaluation. The SBHE will hold a special IVN meeting on January 17th to seek input about changes to the plan. No other significant update since last month.

3. MSU/DCB Alignment

The Chancellor was on campus last week to meet with various constituents regarding the MSU/DCB relationship and whether or not Bottineau should be granted autonomy. There were really no concerns expressed from people in Minot. However, the meetings held in Bottineau were quite different. They did have many questions and generally, opposed the disengagement from MSU. They feel they would be isolated and vulnerable in the event that legislators would want to close campuses. They feel they have more political clout by being associated with Minot State. The Chancellor held a conference call with Dr. Fuller and Dean Grosz yesterday and all decided that the recommendation they would make to the board is that the relationship between the two institutions should remain as it currently is.

Since we do provide services to the Bottineau campus, should we maybe seek funding to help us support them? We should present it as more of a collaborative relationship between DCB and MSU. Some discussion on making DCB just another college of MSU.

4. Announcements/Acknowledgements

Registrar – currently interviewing for an administrative assistant; grades are due on Monday, December 23 at noon.

Nursing department is commended for their scholarship day activities

HR – the campus will close at noon on December 24th.

DCB – now has military friendly status

NDCPD – launched a middle school training program for suicide prevention – will be conducted state-wide; Jennifer Hefter successfully defended her dissertation yesterday; one of our A-step students held a public forum to talk about his experience in the program, proving that it is a successful program

PIO – is always looking for stories to share with the public – please encourage departments to send them in

CETL – student internship applications and the mini grant applications deadline has been extended to January 13; anyone interested in participating in the Days of Service activities should contact CETL by

Friday, December 20; our outside reviewer submitted his report to the Department of Education and gave us a very good review stating that ours is one of the most successful Title III programs he has ever witnessed

5. Wellness Center Survey Results

Our wellness center is very successful with many students currently using it. There has been some concern that faculty and staff are not able to use it. All three senates conducted surveys among their constituents and the consensus is that it should be open to faculty and staff.

Kevin Neuharth moved that the University Cabinet support a proposal to allow faculty and staff to use the Wellness Center on campus for a \$40 per month fee – Caren Barnett seconded the motion.

Discussion included:

- Concern for the capacity of the building's usage – can it accommodate all those wanting to use it?
- If faculty and staff participate in the BCBS Healthy Blue plan, they would receive a \$20 per month reimbursement of the wellness center fee
- What is the cost for one-time use? There is only one fee – the monthly fee – if you only go once a month, then you are really not getting your money's worth
- Has SGA voted on this? The SGA voted to approve the survey and to support the results, that show students are in favor of opening the facility to faculty and staff
- Is there a timeline of when it could open? We have to work out the logistics first. We are still gathering data from other institutions. We also have to be careful on how we make this public as there was some opposition in the community to our building of the Wellness Center.

The vote as called and Cabinet members unanimously voted in favor of the motion to allow faculty and staff use of the Wellness Center. Members are asked to not share this information at this point as there are still a lot of details to work out.

6. Other

We did submit a proposal to receive funds that were set aside for communities impacted by the oil production in the state. Our proposal was for \$1 million to enhance security on campus. The Chancellor did support this project as well as one from Dickinson State and Williston State. No other proposals were forwarded for consideration.

We have been approved for a Challenge Grant that would extend and increase our activity in the Severson Center. The Center will be working with oil companies.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40

Submitted by Deb Wentz