

**Office of the President
Minot State University
Report to University Cabinet and Campus*
June 21, 2006**

Happy First Day of Summer! As in other reports, I have included below the lists of current topics and activities since the last meeting of the University Cabinet on May 15, 2006. If you have any questions about any of these topics and other campus issues, please contact me directly.

Current

- International Planning

The proposal drafted by the International Task Force, a group of faculty and staff who volunteered at an open forum in April, was submitted. The Task Force, chaired by Dr. Lee, was charged with reviewing our current services and recommending the necessary services and infrastructure needed to support an expanded international program on campus.

- Office Transitions

The Residential Life offices have moved into their new space on the first floor of Dakota Hall. Alumni Services and the Foundation Offices are preparing to move into the space made vacated by the residential life offices. Those moves should be completed before July 1. All enrollment services and admissions will then move into the area originally occupied by the Alumni and Foundation Offices on the first floor of the Student Union. The Chartwell's Offices will move into Leon's office, and he will then move into the office now occupied by our International admissions advisor. To align recruitment and admissions, the International admissions office will be relocated in the new Enrollment Management Program area (i.e., where Alumni and Foundation Offices are presently located). All admissions and recruiting services will be located in this area.

- Building project updates

The Beaver Dam (formerly the SU Ballroom), Crane Hall, and the renovations in Dakota will be completed by August. Tours will be arranged for faculty and staff in August.

Report of Current Activities (since May 15, 2006)

- May 15: The new Native American Advisory Committee met to discuss objectives.
- May 17: A special meeting of the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE) was held in Bismarck to review and approve the Biennium Budget plan. The SBHE approved a recommended \$63 million dollar increase in the funding for higher education.
- May 23: The Worksite Wellness Conference was held at UND; all campuses were represented to share ideas about system-wide wellness initiatives.

* This report includes selected University activities. It is distributed to the University Cabinet at its regular monthly meeting, and it is also forwarded to faculty, staff, and student leaders, members of the Board of Regents, and Alumni Board for their information. If anyone wishes to learn more about any of these items, he/she should contact the president at 858-3301 or in the President's Office in the Administration Building.

- May 25: ConnectND Oversight Committee and the ConnectND Campus Advisory Council met in Valley City.
- June 1: MSU's smoke-free campus policy went into effect.
- June 15: The State Board of Higher Education met in Williston. In addition to regular agenda items, the SBHE voted to support the UND's lawsuit of the NCAA. The Chancellor asked the Board to clarify his role as the chief executive officer of the North Dakota University System. The motion to affirm his role as chief executive officer was defeated. The Chancellor asked the Board to authorize the president of the Board to negotiate his exit. The Board decided to review existing materials and roles and allow the Roles and Responsibilities Task Force to review the Chancellor's defined roles. The Board will discuss this matter at its July 11 meeting.

Concluding Remarks

We are preparing materials for the new summer meeting of the MSU Board of Regents. Work is also underway on the strategic plan, which will be shared with the campus at the opening meeting in August. We will also be able to unveil our new master plan at that time.

Our enrollment is holding its own and our admission numbers are up from last year. At present we are anticipating a budget deficit based on proposed salary increases, utility increases, and a slight dip in the FTE enrollment. As we prepare our budget, which is to be submitted to the NDUS in July, we will be looking at ways to address the anticipated shortfall. If enrollment remains above last year's figures, the anticipated shortfall will not be as large as we predict. Currently, we are projecting a substantial increase in utility costs and a 2% decline in FTE.

Enjoy the summer weather and activities.

David Fuller
June 21, 2006