Minot State University
Staff Senate Minutes
February 19, 2013 – Jones Room

Attendees: Vicki Troftgruben, Darla Weigel, Linda Benson, Sherri Giessinger, Julie Keller, Cheryl Merck, Tyler Schmaltz, Mindy Rudnick, Lindsey Benson, Suzanne Blessum, Emily Rodacker, Pam Hopkins, Cathy Anderson, Carla Davis, Donna Harvey, Brandon Neiss, Derek Van Dyke, Dr. Tom Seymour – Faculty Senate representative, Wes Matthews – Ex-officio member.


Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Vicki Troftgruben at 9:03am.

Minutes: No corrections were required of the January minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer’s Report: No new updates.

Dr. David Fuller’s Address:

There was a slight increase in enrollment.

The second round of budget reductions is complete; the $1.8 million in reductions has been met. Staff Senate’s Cost of Living report was included in President Fuller’s presentation to the Senate Appropriations Committee – MSU is asking for support from legislators for budget restoration. Whenever he is presenting to a legislative entity, President Fuller reiterates that MSU has always been compliant and fiscally responsible. MSU needs financial support only because of drastic changes due to the 2011 flood disaster, and energy impact and growth in this region.

Dr. Fuller will present to the House Appropriations Committee in March, after the crossover.

Joann Linrud, dean for the College of Business, is retiring June 30th. A search committee will be in place soon to aid in finding her replacement by July 1, 2013.

Athletics is doing well. And, Darwin Days was interesting.
Area Reports:

State Staff Senate  
Meeting was canceled due to the weather.  

Wes Matthews – Human Resources  
No new updates.  

Dr. Tom Seymour – Faculty Senate Representative  
No new updates.  

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee  
Three scholarships have been awarded at $75 each. Two to students (Jayde Haugrose and Dennis Mikula), and one staff (Melissa Cantone) received the scholarships.  

Professional Development Committee  
Opportunities will be available shortly. The committee is looking at technology and The Village to possibly offer opportunities for further consideration.  

Domestic Violence Crisis Center Fundraising Committee  
Staff Senate is responsible for any money raised, not MSU. Sign-up sheets were passed around for shifts to receive donations, and shifts for the auction.  

Old Business:

HLC Pathways  
Vicki will forward the document to all again for input, which is needed by March 19th. Each Senator is asked to talk with their constituents and solicit project ideas, and report at next meeting.  

New Business:

MSU Penny Carnival: Staff Senate will help collect snacks which will be given as prizes for the Penny Carnival February 28, 2013. Donated snacks should be given to Leon Perzinski, Student Center director.  

SGA Vote: Minot State University’s Student Government Association submitted a resolution that supports the amendments to S.B. 2003 (NDUS budget appropriation bill) to buy out NDUS Chancellor Hamid Shirvani’s contract. Then, an SGA adhoc committee formulated a Vote of No Confidence regarding NDUS Chancellor Hamid Shirvani, and SGA approved going forward with the vote of no confidence. Derek VanDyke asked for Staff Senate support of same and made a motion, which was seconded by Pam Hopkins. Vicki Troftgruben will meet with Dr. Fuller first before calling a special meeting for this official Staff Senate vote. A State Board of Higher Education member may be invited to the special meeting to aid with further discussions. Today’s discussions included if this was truly a part of Staff Senate’s mission. Other NDUS campuses have given verbal support, while others remain neutral.  

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:05am.  

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 2013 in the Jones Room at 9:00am.