Minot State University  
Staff Senate Special Meeting  
Minutes Mar. 1, 2013

Members present: Vicki Troftgruben, Darla Weigel, Linda Benson, Pam Hopkins, Donna Harvey, Cathy Anderson, Johnny Johnson, Brandon Neiss, Derek Van Dyke, Lindsey Benson, Suzanne Blessum, Cheryl Merck, Tyler Schmaltz, Emily Rodacker, Linda Benson, Virginie Vournas, Celeste Simmons, Wes Matthews, Trisha Nelson, Scott Peterson and Karla Bredahl

Members absent: Sherri Giessinger, Julie Keller, Mindy Rudnick, Carla Davis, Bill Klimpel, Beth Odahlen, Charlene Radke, Linda Seklecki, Diane Pierson, Tiffany Fylling, Roger Herrmann

Recording: Darla Weigel

This special meeting was held to discuss the motion presented and tabled at the Feb. 19th meeting, regarding whether MSU Staff Senate wants to consider passing a vote of no confidence in Chancellor Shirvani. (Original motion by Derek Van Dyke, MSU employee and Graduate representative on SGA, to support the students in their vote of no confidence, and to also consider whether staff senate wants to put forth their own vote of no confidence.)

Discussion was held with some of the comments/concerns being:
  • If we go ahead with a vote of no confidence, who/what is it that we have no confidence in? Is it with Chancellor Shirvani, who is supposedly doing what the SBHE asked him to do; the SBHE for hiring him; or the Pathways proposal itself?
  • There seems to be a general lack of communication regarding the proposal and it is always changing, with no final version in sight.
  • The Admissions Score Matrix is very confusing, and there are problems with the matrix that has been placed on the web for students to use.
  • How do we (recruiters) go out and sell MSU when we don’t know what we are selling. We are told that students have to have a certain score to attend here, but then we are told to use our “back room” ways. Concern for being reprimanded if we do use the “back door”.

Suggestions from staff included:
  • Invite Terry Hjelmstad, and possibly other board members to campus to address our concerns/questions.
  • Examine the history/evolution of the Pathways Proposal since its inception as the Three Tiered Plan and document the changes, flaws etc.
  • Gather data on exactly how our student are being, or will be affected by the Pathways Proposal.
Motion made by Donna Harvey, 2nd by Karly Bredahl to table the current motion until the Mar. 19th meeting to allow time to collect data on how our students are being affected. Motion carried.