

University Cabinet Minutes

November 29, 2023

Present: Sara Abrahamson, Katy Allers, Nathan Anderson, Maggie Backen, Shawn Bennett, Courtenay Brekhus, Kevin Forde, Amanda Francis, Lori Garnes, Laurie Geller, Deb Haman, Lisa Haman, Kevin Harmon, Rick Hedberg, Andy Heitkamp, Cole Krueger, Jane laPlante, Maleeha Latif, Michael Linnell, Janna McKechnie, Annette Mennem, Jacek Mrozik, Robert Norman, Darren Olson, Gary Orluck, Leon Perzinski, Tiffany Pierson, David Rolandson, Steve Shirley, Carmen Simone, Brian Smith, Karina Stander, Doreen Wald, Laurie Weber, Deb Wentz, and Brent Winiger

Absent: Paul Brekke, Lisa Dooley, Jeremy Feller, Tiffany Heth, Heather Martin, Cari Olson, Rebecca Ringham, Michelle Saylor, Jessica Smestad, James Sturm, and Jonelle Watson

Guests: Melissa Cantone

Approval of minutes: September 20, 2023 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

New Business

1. Senate Reports

SGA

- Working on filling vacancies
- Many meetings regarding the renovation of the Student Center

Faculty Senate

- Have a new committee – Committee on Committees; working on bylaw changes - they will need to be made due to the academic restructure
- The Academic Hall of Fame committee has been renamed to the Academic Recognition Committee which will now include nominations for the Distinguished Lifetime Educator award
- Holding special elections to fill vacancies on committees
- Looking at possible options for Senate structure after the academic restructure

Staff Senate

- High 5 recipients for the last two months included J. Anderson and K. Donamaria; have received a number of department shout outs as well, which can be viewed on the Staff Senate website
- Thanks to N. Anderson for his work on the staff satisfaction survey by setting up a Power BI report that shows results/trends over the past four years; this is also posted on the Staff Senate website
- We will host a door decorating contest for the holidays; check out campus announcements for details
- We have partnered with athletics to offer a \$5 lunch for those wanting to watch the Women's basketball game on December 5th starting at 11:30; staff are encouraged to participate in this event
- We will have a fundraising event with a "job swap" with Dr. Shirley; an administrative assistant, a basketball coach, and a custodian will be collecting money over a period of time and who ever collects the most, Dr. Shirley will do their job for a few hours; more details will be forthcoming through campus announcements

2. Financial Aid Update on FAFSA Changes

L. Weber presented the FAFSA simplification changes and the campus wide implications of these changes

- Simplifies completion process for students
- Protects federal taxpayer information
- More students will qualify for Pell grants
- Emergency financial aid funds are exempt from treatment as other financial aid
- Changes to small business/family farmers
- Certain questions on the form have been eliminated

Reason for the changes:

- Expanded access to postsecondary education
- Pell grant eligibility predictability and transparency
- Greater program integrity, data accuracy, and reduced need for verification

Impacts will affect the following campus departments:

- Financial aid
- Admissions/Enrollment
- IT
- Institutional Research
- Emergency aid programs
- HR/Finance/Payroll

3. President's Report

- Thank you to VP Winiger on his years of service to MSU and we wish him well in his retirement
- Next Tuesday evening we will be hosting a graduation event for those graduating in December
- There are some campuses within the NDUS that offer a lot of dual credit courses, mainly within the two-year campuses; UND and NDSU have typically not participated much in these courses but have now expressed more of an interest to do so; this is causing some concern within the smaller campuses
- A couple of the smaller campuses are asking to offer bachelor's degrees; the four-year institutions will continue to oppose this unless the SBHE approves the motion

4. Acknowledgements/Announcements:

Financial Aid – getting scholarship applications ready for a Friday opening

VPSA – as mentioned, we are hosting a graduation event on December 5 in the conference center and encourage everyone to attend if possible; we hope to be done with the first floor Student Center renovation by Commencement time so offices that are currently located on the second floor can relocate and renovation on the second floor can begin over the summer; spring orientation will take place on January 8; there will be some changes made to the new student orientation sessions

VPAF – thank you to everyone who attended the retirement event yesterday; it has been great to be here and will miss all the wonderful faculty and staff

Advancement – would like to also recognize D. Wald in Publications and Design on her retirement December 13; A. Francis will replace her as director; we received a Best of CASE District VI award for our most recent President's report – thanks to the whole team who writes and publishes this magazine; we are very busy accepting donor gifts as everyone is trying to beat the December 31 deadline for this tax year

Library – P. Hunt, who retired a few years ago had decided to return to the library as the cataloging librarian; therapy dogs will be back on December 4; NYT has published their top 10 books list – we do have institution-wide access so check it out

NDCPD – pretty much business as usual; held a retreat to design a Workplace Culture Statement

Athletics – WBB Education Game is set for December at 11:30 – will be offering faculty, staff, students a slice of pizza or hot dog with chips and a drink for \$5; Meet the Beavers on January 8 at Ryan Nissan; January 12 is Defend the Dome night; pool renovation project should take about two months to complete

UComm – will be conducting interviews in the next few days for a specialist to replace A. Duchscher

Security – very quiet on campus; did assist MPD a few weeks back by providing footage from our cameras from a high-speed crash

Publications and Design – D. Wald thanked everyone for their support over the years and how she will miss everyone; she also encouraged everyone to have patience with the staff as they will be short a person for a while

Marketing – thanks to all that participated in the survey that was sent out – had a very good response; still analyzing data and visual review which we be shared later

Enrollment – pushing forward with getting students to re-enroll; very close to filling the vacant admissions counselor position; thanks to all who participated in the Minot Area Career Expo

Military Resource – VA has new regulations for active-duty service men in regard to class attendance; attended the Vets Stand down event; results of the Veterans Day poetry contest will be published soon; working on session for Marketplace for kids

VPAA – thanks to all who attended the restructure forums and provided feedback and can be found on the VPAA website; working on curriculum in the Grad school; have had people wanting to help and donate to the Ramstad project – have been working very closely with MPS; awarded six grants through the Cultural & Intellectual Engagement committee; Hartnett is getting close for move in; many student presentations are taking place – please attend if you can

Assessment – reports are coming in; the office does have a GA this fall which has been a great help; working on establishing criteria on what defines co-curricular vs. extra-curricular; working with Teacher Ed and Enrollment to refine current dashboards; presented at a conference in October and will be presenting along with L. Cresap, A. Williams at the HLC conference

CEL – had good participation in the National Distance Learning week activities – awarded three prizes; life-long learning classes have concluded for the fall

Residence Life – wrapping up for the fall semester; halls do not close over the semester break

DCB – had a positive dental assistance accreditation visit; hope to be accredited by fall 2024 for the program to begin; have a good potential partnership to offer classes at MAFB; working on better opportunities to provide CNA training in Minot

IT – getting equipment ready for the move into Hartnett; working on phone replacements – NDCPD is finished; Windows 10 end of life is 2025 – will be working with departments to determine updates

Alumni – 52 people went on the alumni cruise in October; had a successful pumpkin patch event with staff senate; collaborated with the Native American center to host an alumni speaker – Monte Yellowbird; on December 4 will host a bingo event at Spicy Pie; will host an event in Denver at the end of the year when the men’s hockey team is there; January 19 will host alumni and friends night at the basketball game; events are planned in Florida and Arizona

Student Health – thanks to all who attended the speaker event on mental health; plan to bring her back in the fall for another event; contracting with UND to cover some online student counseling

HR – working on ACA enrollment for those who do not work FT; K. Striha is leaving next week; new VPAF will be here on Monday

Student Center – attended the annual American Student Government Conference with SGA members; several events are planned before students leave for the semester break; finals breakfast is on December 11

Registrar – have contacted all non-returning students to get them enrolled – text, email, and phone call

Power – have also contacted their students to register; hosting a workshop on studying for finals; have a position open but will hold off until after the holidays to interview; getting ready for annual report; hosting a graduate recognition event for 12 graduates; thanks to Security for the excellent active shooter training, they conducted in the office; in the beginning stages of preparing for the centers new grant

NA – good turnout for our cultural event in November; hosted an indigenous lunch that was well attended – looking at the possibility of expanding this event next year to a much larger event; went to MHA Interpretive Center with others from MSU to present them the Chief Drags Wolf war shirt that was in our possession; will host a holiday event on December 6 for students; working on educational program for the annual powwow which will be held on April 26 & 27 – anyone interested in serving on the planning committee should contact A. Mennem

Facilities – special thanks to T. Wald for his many years of service to MSU and best of luck in retirement

Adjourned at 10:46

Respectfully submitted, Deb Wentz