

## Planning & Budgeting Council

March 8, 2012

**Members Present:** Anthony Anderson, Brent Askvig, Linda Benson, Kristi Berg, David Fuller, Deb Jensen, Kathryn Kilroy, Cheryl Nilsen, Kris Warmoth, Darla Weigel, and Deb Wentz

**Members Absent:** Ryan Hertz and Scott Louser

1. Minutes of the January 30, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.
2. Dr. Fuller reviewed the recent budget shortfall and deficit presentation that was shown to the campus. We are looking at either a one or two year solution to address the shortfall. Various meetings will be held in the next few weeks to come up with a formal institutional budget to be presented to the NDUS. Other presentations may include one to the Budget Section as well as the Interim Higher Ed committee.
3. Review of proposed campus conversations
  - We need to define how we want these discussions structured as well as determine what we are actually looking for as far as information to help with future planning. Discussion included:
    - Start this spring – maybe do one per week
    - Limit group size to maybe around 20 people
    - Mix and match groups (staff & faculty, etc)
    - Determine who should facilitate the conversation
    - Send participants something prior to the sessions so everyone has same framework in anticipation of the session

Possible questions: (must give a good sense of what we do and the direction we should be going)

- What is it that we do here?
- What would you expect of someone who attended college?
- In what way would you want to see a person change as a result of attending college?
- What is your perception on how we are doing?
- How does MSU move forward in the future?
- How would you describe MSU to someone who has never heard of us?

Other discussion regarding the sessions included:

- Do we ask the question that we already know the answer to? May confirm the need to educate the public about what college is for
- There is a disconnect between what business owners want in a student and what the public thinks – critical thinker vs. just learning a trade
- Should we give everyone in the group a chance to respond to the question before opening up to the whole group?
- Should offer an anonymous method for answers as well – blank paper at each session as well as an online form that could be filled out.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Wentz