

May 26, 2010

TO: MSU Faculty, Staff, Student Leaders, and Board Members

FROM: David Fuller

SUBJECT: ¹Monthly President's Report

Current

Commencement

We graduated approximately 650 students. This ceremony was recognizing the fourth strategy of Vision 2013—diversity and multiculturalism. In recognition of that theme, our two speakers, Jillian Cenaiko, a Summa Cum Laude communications disorder graduate, and Col. Robert Walker from the Minot Air Force Base addressed the large audience and spoke of the value of diversity and inclusiveness.

Earth Day

The university celebrated Earth Day by sponsoring and participating in a campus-wide clean up. Other activities were scheduled, including a poster session displaying environmental projects and recycling tips.

Communications Disorders meeting to discuss potential doctorate

The faculty from communications disorder met with me and Neil Nordquist to discuss the feasibility of developing and offering a clinical doctorate in communications disorders. The faculty members suggested that we continue to study the feasibility in view of financial needs, accreditation, and faculty.

Capital projects review

Two major capital projects have been presented to the SBHE: Phase Two of the Health and Wellness Center and the Campus Geothermal Project. The Vice Chancellor for Administration visited campus and met with Roger Kluck, Ron Dorn, and me to discuss the needs of both projects. She will make recommendations to the Chancellor and to the SBHE as to the projects to be included on the Chancellor's capital list.

Geothermal project

The engineer from MEP Associates, the alternative energy firm, visited campus recently to discuss a plan to install geothermal wells on the field north of the stadium and to install geothermal heating and cooling in a specific quadrant of the campus as the first phase of implementation. This proposed plan would be to connect geothermal to the Dome, the new

¹ The President's Report is a monthly summary of activities in the president's office and current issues affecting the campus. The report is distributed widely to keep the community up to date on current initiatives and decisions. The report is provided at the monthly meeting of the University Cabinet, an advisory council comprised of all supervisory directors, vice presidents, and senate presidents. This report is distributed electronically to all faculty and staff, student leaders, the Board of Regents, Foundation Board of Directors, and Alumni Board. The report is also posted on the university's web site. Anyone interested in learning more about this information may contact the President's Office or the president directly.

Wellness Center, Swain, Hartnett, and the Olson Library. In subsequent phases when the funds are secured, a perimeter line would be installed on the campus to continue to heat and cool additional quadrants of buildings.

Football Field

Kraus Anderson, the contractor for the renovation of the football field, has been working to install the surrounding berms in preparation for the eventual installation of the Field Turf. The plan is to complete the project and the field prior to the start of the football season. The renovation of the field does not include a track. In the short term, the university and the MPS will collaborate to allow MSU to compete on the Carlson track. The long-term plan is to install a track on campus eventually. The Allen field is being considered for a competition track, as well as collaboration with Bishop Ryan and the development of a shared track on that field.

Wellness Center expanded authority

The university intends to return to the Budget Section on June 22 to seek approval for expanded authority to allow for the building of a walkway, the installation of a climbing wall, and the purchasing of equipment for the center.

Trip to Vietnam to sign partnership agreement

Our college of business has been in contact with the National Economics University and the Institute for Economics and Development Studies in Hanoi, Vietnam. A memorandum of agreement has been developed and potential student and faculty exchanges envisioned. Dr. Linrud, Dr. Ross, Dr. Cresap, and I will be travelling to NEU the first week of June to discuss the collaboration and to sign a partnership

Food service contract awarded to Sodexo

After the review of five proposals from food service vendors, the review committee made up of students and staff recommended that the contract be offered to Sodexo. The financial advantage, the plans for renovated dining venues, and plans for new services gave the nod to Sodexo over our current service vendor Chartwells. The transition to the new food service will begin the last week of June and be completed the first week of July. We have appreciated the service provided by Chartwells and its staff these past 13 years. The Chartwells organization has acted professionally throughout this process.

Vice President for Finance and Administration

We are very pleased that Mr. Brian Foisy will be taking over as our vice president for finance and administration July 1. Brian brings with him considerable experience as a financial manager and leader. From July 2004 to Feb. 2008, Foisy was an assistant commissioner for financial services at the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education in Salt Lake City, Utah. Most recently, he was the vice president for finance and administrative services for the Utah College of Applied Technology, Salt Lake City where he managed the finances for a system of eight technical schools located throughout the state of Utah.

Transition planning

Meetings with Ron Dorn and his reports have begun to discuss the transition to Mr. Foisy in July. Ron Dorn's schedule will overlap with Brian's to allow for specific training and preparation. Policies, budgets and other documents have been sent to Brian for his review.

Planning and Budgeting Council

The PABC met recently to review the progress the university has made in meeting its Great

Plains aspiration university performance indicators. Notable progress has been made on all indicators and action plans.

Final salary distribution plan

The final draft of the salary distribution plan and the individual salaries has been reviewed in preparation for the mailing of contracts. The new salary figures have followed the plan developed by the Compensation Task Force which was summarized at the open forums in April and distributed in the compensation brochure.

Strategic Planning discussion with academic deans

Dr. Rabe and I have met with each of the deans to review their respective college's strategic plans and priorities. Those plans were developed in concert with the faculty and staff. Priority goals will be identified for support.

Appointment of Selmer Moen as Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

We are pleased that Dr. Moen has agreed to serve as the interim VPAA this coming year. Dr. Moen brings many years of experience as a faculty member and administrator. We look forward to working with Selmer and to his leadership.

Plans for national search for permanent VPAA

In September a search committee will be appointed to discuss the search for a replacement for Dr. Rabe. The profile, qualifications, and advertisement will be developed by the committee for posting nationally by October 1. The plan is to conduct a thorough search and review and to appoint the new VPAA by July 1, 2011.

Board of Regents meeting

At the end of April the Minot State University Board of Regents met for its spring meeting. The Regents were introduced to the Achievement Award winners, heard reports on our transition to the NCAA Division II, and met in committees to consider objectives for the coming year. The Regents were also given a tour of Swain.

NCAA Division II

We are nearing completion of the first year of our three-year transition to NCAA Division II. Our first candidacy year has been marked by policy development, the completion of a strategic plan, and a self study. We believe that we have fulfilled all expectations for this first year.

Application to Northern Sun Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

We made application to join the NSIC following that conference's decision to expand from 14 to 16 institutions. The NSIC Board of Directors will be meeting in June to consider whether a visiting team will be travelling to the campuses that have applied for membership. According to the last report from the conference, only two institutions have applied—Minot State University and the University of Sioux Falls. If they decide to visit our campus, a final decision to extend an offer could be made as early as September.

Office and program planned moves and schedule

The Social Science Department will be moving their offices to the offices vacated by the Teacher Education program sometime this summer. Teacher Education faculty will first be moved from Old Main to Swain in June.

List of Selected Activities and Events in President's Office (since April 21, 2010)

April

- Men's basketball coach candidates
- Introduction of Producer of Documentary in Bottineau
- Welcome to Opening Session of DCB's Earth Day Events
- Participated in MSU's Campus clean up
- Trinity Board meeting
- Earth Day Posters presentations
- Faculty Senate meetings
- Faculty Senate president meeting
- Meeting with Faculty Athletic Rep
- Attended MSU's Pow Wow and honor dance for graduates and Wylie Hammond
- Meeting with Deans and direct reports to discuss VPAA replacement
- International programming discussion
- Follow up meeting with Cresap and Rabe regarding strategic plans
- Follow up meeting with Warmoth and Rabe regarding strategic plans
- Athletic financing meeting
- Marketing candidates for CoB
- Lunch meeting at Info-Tech
- Welcome to Retirement Social
- Welcome at Great Plains Scholar Dinner
- Pride of MSU Concert
- Meeting with Communications Disorders department regarding doctorate
- Follow up meeting on landscaping and monument sign
- Reference call for associate
- Chris Beachy's lecture on amphibians
- MSU String Ensemble
- Welcome to IBLA Music performers concert at Ann Nicole
- Marita Hoffart retirement celebration
- MSU Spring Jazz and Percussion Ensemble concert
- MSU Board of Regents Spring Meeting and presentation
- MSU Gala and Auction at Holiday Inn
- Interview with Prairie Business Magazine
- Campus review of 2011-13 capital projects with vice chancellor
- Meeting with Job Corps director and regional supervisor
- Welcome to KMOT Best of Class luncheon
- Planning and Budgeting Council meeting
- Meeting with NCAA Division II consultants
- Social Science office move meeting
- Faculty Senate meeting
- Interview on KMSU Live show
- Northwest Art Center Student art show
- Luminous Concert
- Nursing students poster session in Atrium
- Archive task force meeting
- Dr. Grosz evaluation meeting
- MSU choir concert
- Campus Veterans' program discussion
- Graduate rate and persistence review
- BIT applicant interview
- Woodwind applicant interview
- Sodexo conference call
- Trinity picnic
- Minot Area Development Corporation Board meeting
- Library Director candidate interview
- Reference call for associate
- Meeting with local legislators to discuss wellness center
- Business After Hours at Western Agency
- Hosted commencement brunch
- MSU Commencement
- Dakota College at Bottineau Commencement
- FAR meeting
- MEP Geothermal meeting
- Trinity meeting to discuss athletic training partnership
- Chamber board of Directors meeting
- Staff Senate meeting
- NDUS supervisor training
- Planning meeting for trip to Vietnam
- Architectural meeting for Wellness Center and field
- Meeting with Linrud and Rabe regarding strategic plans
- VPAF transition discussions
- Performance evaluation with Chancellor in Bismarck

May

- Women's softball games
- Men's baseball game
- Vice President for Administration Finance candidates interviews
- Clarine Sandstrom to discuss early childhood program

- Welcome at graduate celebration for MSU students in Bismarck
- Wylie Hammond retirement party
- Dakota College at Bottineau meeting to discuss collaborative programs
- Presentation of head dress by native American student and family
- Board of Regents Executive Committee meeting
- NCAA Division II financing review
- Meeting with MSU librarians

Concluding Remarks

This time of the year is full of performances, presentations, and celebrations. All of us are so fortunate to have an array of fine arts performances, concerts, plays, lectures, and student presentations. And this spring the campus was alive every week with music, drama, athletic events, and a host of displays and presentations by students showing their many talents and achievements. This was a time, too, for honoring our retiring faculty and staff who have dedicated themselves to making our university strong, and for celebrating the graduations of our students on campus and off campus. Commencement was a joy—great weather, outstanding commencement speakers, and about 650 proud graduates. It has been a busy and fine year in many regards. It is always nice to culminate a fine year by honoring our graduating students and reminding ourselves about the essential reasons all of us are here, and those are our students.

David Fuller
May 26, 2010