

ASF Meet and Confer Notes
Thursday, December 11th, 2014
Meeting Chair: President Davenport

I. Information Items

- A. Review of Notes
 - No changes mentioned
- B. MSU President's Report (R. Davenport)
 - A big weekend on campus with 2 Commencements and a football game. We are working on a traffic plan to compensate for the crowd for Commencement merging with the football crowd.
 - President's Chili luncheon Monday at 11:30. If you like it hot, you'll like the chili this year!
 - (K. Clark) We are coming up on the 150th anniversary of the founding of the university. Cabinet conversations about this will begin Monday. 2017/2018 will be times to maximize the value of this historic milestone. The University will also look at setting aspirations for the next 150 years. These efforts will involve everybody.
- C. MSUAASF President's Report (J. Clarke)
 - We are looking forward to our break, it has been a busy semester for all. Thank you for the chili feed on Monday, lots of our members are looking forward. Thanks for supporting Unions United food drive. Good luck to our football team this weekend.
 - MSUAASF members are involved in Fall commencement weekend.
- D. Vice President Student Affairs & Enrollment Management Report (D. Jones)
 - Current fall semester enrollment headcount is down .3%. This is about 33 students less than one year ago. This spring resulted in more applications and confirmations than one year ago. We are hoping to make up for lost ground with spring enrollments. Early signs indicated a larger number of transfer students and the same number of incoming first year students. We will have 213 less students enrolled for the spring than we had last semester, which reflects a trend across the system. This is $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million in revenue loss (R. Davenport).
 - Fall 2015: Trailing in applications for most of the fall, this week these applications leveled in comparison to last year. More outreach with additional dollars the cabinet approved are being used to mitigate this decline. Sister institutions are also facing this decline because 2017 is the "bottom of the trough" regarding high school enrollment.
 - Intent to enroll is up 20% for confirmed freshman, the highest in 3 years.

II. Discussion Items

- A. Budget (R. Fields)
 - Passed around a traffic map for the weekend.
 - Handout distributed-Budget and Economic Forecast.
 - (R. Davenport)-We aren't out of the woods. We are watching enrollment. The Chancellor is proposing to the legislature \$70 million for MnSCU to keep up with inflation and compensation plus another \$72 million to buy down a tuition increase of 3%. This \$142 million from the legislature will keep from raising tuition by 3% if this proposal is approved by the legislature.
 - There is a concern that money isn't going to come to higher education.
 - We are holding off on equipment purchases and phased retirement approvals to reduce exposure in the event of cutbacks.
 - Increased construction costs could impact construction projects on the books.

B. HR Topics (S. Sargent)

- Human Resource Vacancies Announced
- 2015-2016 Holiday Calendar
 - (J. Clarke)—A Survey is being sent to members on Monday (12/15). We'll have results from ASF to HR in early January.
 - (S. Murray)-Are searches aligned with end dates for interim positions? S. Sargent confirmed that those searches are moving forward.

C. Cultural Contribution Scholarship Proposal (D. Jones)

- International student population continues to grow at MSU. Affordability is a key reason. The President has set a goal that we double our international student enrollment. The financial reality to needing to grow this population is complex. This scholarship is a key part in reaching this goal. More resources are needed to make an investment in this area if we are to reach this goal.
- One idea from D. Jones: Move to the Midwest regional compact rate would generate about \$1 million per year.
- This applies only to undergraduates and current students would be grandfathered into this proposal.
- International Student Association has been approached about this concept.
 - J. Clarke asked how students responded. They were concerned about price changes, services offered, and impact on future students.
- R. Davenport-we need to make sure we have services in place as part of reaching this goal. Tuition adjustments will underwrite the services needed by these students once they are here. Drawing international students is a mark of a mature institution.
- D. Jones is seeking ideas and feedback as this conversation starts becoming more public moving forward. More discussions on this in January's Meet and Confer.
 - J. Clarke will request feedback from membership.
- C. Lindsay—while taken by surprise last week, there is an appreciation that management listens to multiple perspective on this topic. We all want what is best for the university while realizing we all have a role in the solution.
- R. Davenport-We will look at all populations and how to best represent those.

D. Police Proposal Update (D. Jones)

- Acknowledged that T. Miller's (City of Mankato) presentation last month and more recently with IFO has had an impact on campus groups.
- R. Davenport provided an updated to IFO response, which "didn't go well" according to D. Jones. T. Miller said a police officer would be assigned to campus at the beginning of the year. This caught IFO and R. Davenport by surprise.
 - Legal counsel confirmed that the City has the authority to do this. D. Davenport spoke with the City Manager and asked for some input regarding who the officer would be, etc.
- There is information (unofficial) that Matt DeRose will supervise this officer.
- R. Davenport has been assured that the University is not being asked to pay for this officer.
- Our hands are tied in the decision regarding an officer coming to campus, but we can help make sure there is a "soft landing." Given what is happening with police across the campus, R. Davenport is going to make it clear what is expected regarding police brutality and profiling type behaviors.
- D. Jones—a current officer is going to be reassigned here. MSU has not yet been involved in selecting who this officer is. The city is hiring 3 new officers, these new officers will not be assigned to MSU (R. Davenport).

E. Concurrent Enrollment (D. Jones)

- Concurrent student enrollment (students who take college courses at the High School) is increasing, PSEO (High School students who take courses on our campus) is decreasing. MSU is behind sister universities regarding enrollment in these programs and also charges less for these courses. There is a plan to increase the price for these courses again this year. We will still be below other universities in cost.
 - This program is self-sustaining, and income goes to pay for GAs in NSFP.
 - Moving forward, there is a goal to get these students to campus for a visit and use some of the funding from this program to create scholarship dollars to pull in some of these students. Scholarships could also be directed at High Schools who don't yet have concurrent enrollment arrangements with MSU.
 - R. Davenport: Concurrent enrollment students are typically top-notch students. This program could attract more of these students to our university.
 - The MnSCU system may be proposing a \$3,000 rate statewide for these courses.
- F. Grad Ceremony Update (MSUAASF)
- K. Clark-ASF has provided the most comprehensive feedback to date of all the bargaining units. No decision has yet been made. There will be more conversations at the close of the semester. ASF raised a number of issues that need to be discussed.
 - This fall only about 40% of graduating students will participate in Commencement this weekend.
 - Spring has a higher participation percentage.
 - GCAP has also been discussing this, as well as gathering current students and alumni feedback.
- G. Update on Integrated Academic Planning (M. Wells)
- Handout distributed
 - Phase III is concluding.
 - An update was given on what Phase IV will look like.
 - Phase 5 will start in August when we reopen and then the 3 year plan will kick-off.
 - S. Murray—How will addressing resources that are needed be worked into the planning process?
 - This is happening in part III and will inform decisions about resources that are typically made anyway (M. Wells)
- H. Update on Academic Mapping (M. Wells)
- Going back to last January's workshops, the goal has been to have 100% of our programs mapped by this December.
 - We have 136 degree programs, as of Monday we had 113 degree maps completed.
 - There was a goal of having the 83 graduate programs mapped by May. We are over 30% of having our graduate programs mapped.
 - The next step is promoting these curriculum maps to our students.
 - Mapping helps attract students who are comparing schools.
 - R. Davenport—we'll put this on a phone Application.
 - E. Clark provided an updated on the current "My MSU App." And offered some ideas of what an app could do in the future, including involving this academic map.
- I. Charting the Future Update (MSUAASF)
- J. Clarke: What is your perspective on where Charting the Future is and where it is going?
 - R. Davenport: The latest from Monday/Tuesday's Presidential Leadership meeting: The Presidential staff wants to try to move forward. They are trying to determine how to do so without all the bargaining units participating.
 - A third party is trying to bring everyone together through a resolution. Currently a limited amount of work is being done while arbitration runs it's course.

J. Tobacco Free Policy Update (R. Fields)

- A few years ago the goal in making a “no smoking” policy was a response to the many health concerns related to tobacco on campus.
- The current issue (enforcement) is related to the impact of second-hand smoking.
- The current limitation is that there isn’t much of a way to enforce the current policy.
- Per MnSCU attorney, financial sanctions are off the table.
- Positive reinforcement is a possibility.
- R. Davenport: Other campus also don’t have a way to enforce. Some campus have put smoking containers right where people enter campus. Some universities report that smokers went off campus to smoke and made a problem in the local neighborhoods. Other campus are “gradually getting better” without an enforcement arm.
- R. Davenport: Educational programs for new students and employees could help spread the message.
- R. Davenport: We need better signage around campus, more bold, to keep it at the outskirts of campus.
- R. Davenport: We are running out of ideas for enforcement.
- S. Murray—How do we measure progress? It was agreed that this is a difficult question to answer. This is not an evenly distributed problem across campus = there are areas where this is more prevalent.

K. Malware Update (E. Clark)

- Handout distributed.
- Two ways to get malware, click a link or download a file.
- Send spam to “spam@mnsu.edu”
- Don’t open files from someone you were not expecting a file from, especially if the file is in a format that you don’t normally use.