

**Minnesota State University Association of
Administrative and Service Faculty Meet & Confer
Thursday, February 26, 2026 | 1:15 – 2:45 pm
CSU 238**

AGENDA

The following notes are provided as a way for the MSUAASF Meet and Confer representatives to communicate conversations that occur at Meet and Confer with membership and to concur with administration summaries of points discussed. They are not reflective of exact statements shared in the meeting and are not meant to serve as a transcript. Any members with questions can reach out to their ASF Meet and Confer representatives for clarifications. The previous month's notes are reviewed at Meet and Confer by all attendees to ensure the overall essence of the meeting was captured and updates can be made accordingly when necessary.

Meeting Chair: MSU President: Edward Inch Alissa Morson

Attendees:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Amy Cooney | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Linda Meidl |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shauna Elbers | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Moosally |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jill Fischer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Henry Morris |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tressa Flo (online) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alissa Morson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anne Gillespie | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sergio Salgado |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lindsay Henderson | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheri Sargent |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Hood (online) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristel Seth |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edward Inch | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sam Steiger |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Jones | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Liz Steinborn-Gourley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Kmiech | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Travis Thul |

Guests: Mike Menne, Matt Clay

Meeting Materials can be found on [The Fountain, ASF site](#)

Meeting Chair – Alissa Morson, MSUAASF President

1. Standing Items:

- A. Welcome & Introductions -
- B. Reorder/Additions - none noted
- C. Review of Prior Meeting Notes – no comments
- D. MSU President's Report [**Edward Inch**]
 1. Two Shout outs:
 - (a) Sheri Dickerman & Alli Altmann – Women's Hockey Coaches – Won Gold medals at the Olympics. Sheri was a Team USA assistant coach and Alli a goaltending coach. Alli was a Maverick goaltender graduating in 2012. International spotlight for us.
 - (b) AVP David Jones is now President David Jones at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall. Acting VP Brian Jones will stay on one more year to Interim VP. Intended to run the search for new VP immediately, but are now postponing until new AY with goal of having someone appointed by July 1, 2027. Determined that timing is late for full search now.
 2. Three current projects
 - (a) Our allocation model and framework. 60% tuition, 40% allocation. Has said before – MSU Mankato experiences an imbalance on how funds are allocated to us. We are below average per student across system. Our CFI recently impacted. Anne G. and Pres Inch have been in conversations with Chancellor and MN state; not looking optimistic they will change allocation any time soon. What strategies do we have to help our budget? We had expected the fulltime

UG numbers down, and we made it up for this year, but another threat coming to bear – we will be down in international students due to visas, U.S. climate, etc. Need to figure out how to continue bringing in revenue. More discussion under agenda topic for today.

- (b) Armstrong Hall push – Posted discussion points for Armstrong advocacy. New website and all were sent email. We are doing lots of work to meet with various groups. Media is picking it up too. Support is growing. Making the case that we need to set priorities – we are important to the system and the number of students we serve. Armstrong strategy is different than Future State. For Armstrong, we are asking for General Obligation bonds (GO Bonds) which only require 1/6 payback. Asking legislature to provide a good portion of that. Good traction but time is of the essence. Future State – will look for other bonds as this facility will be revenue generating, and we will plan to pay back to bonds at 100%.
- (c) Law enforcement agents on campus for Job Fair. Please keep in mind that post the death of George Floyd, our criminal justice program re-visioned their program and training. We want our employers to hire our people because Pres Inch is confident in the education they are getting here.

E. ASF President's Report [**Alissa Morson**]

- 1. February – celebratory time – February - members celebrating Ramadan, Chinese New Year, month of love. Acknowledge some ASF members:
 - (a) ASF enRICHment Award winners last few months - Mandy Quist, John Bulcock, Jacy Fry. Encourage you to continue to recognize all of your peers and staff.
 - (b) Celebrate Jean Clarke – 2026 BOT Administrative & Service Faculty. Congrats, Jean!

F. Acting Vice President Student Affairs & Enrollment Management [**Brian Jones**]

- 1. SEM – Strategic Enrollment Plan has been available for feedback month of February. During month of March, they will work with various groups. Will bring plan back to M&C in April. Grateful to our members and others who have given feedback.
- 2. Element of SEM – Developing more comprehensive scholarship awarding process. Analyzing the data and identifying where the money comes from. Hope to have a proposal by end of AY as part of SEM plan.
- 3. Division very busy supporting our students, many of them are ASF. Bias incident reporting, DEI, mental health, free speech, rec programs, very proud of his team for their work.

2. **Discussion Items:**

A. Questions from Administrative Reports [**MSUAASF**]

- 1. ASF would like to learn more about FY 27 retrenchment, program cuts or plans for reorganization. Pres Inch – each division has been given criteria to follow for budget adjustments.
 - (a) Things that help protect enrollment, etc.
 - (b) Look for reductions in areas that do not directly impact students. We don't think there will be further reductions of programs or student services. Will cover more of that on the agenda next. Not certain yet if it will impact people.

B. Budget Update [**Anne Gillespie & Edward Inch**]

- 1. Apologized for report being late. Board deep dive pushed to February, and they were hoping for more decisions on allocation framework and model. Workday data is still creating difficulties. May get the same amount of system money received from last year. So, no changes as to how we are allocated resources is a significant impact to Mankato. There are monies being allocated to identity management, and there is no money for companion projects – so we are looking at more expenses coming. We are going to continue to see some challenges.
- 2. Slides – (See Presentation) *Note: My notes here are very light and capture highlights of this conversation only.*

- (a) INTL student enrollment will impact us. We are at about where we thought we would be for FY26. Base allocation 60 Mil. Really relying on tuition. We are anticipating 10 mil in additional deficit for FY26. We do know benefits and wages for FY27 so we can now better plan for those.
- (b) Allocation model / instructional cost study, will likely not impact FY27 as it won't be ready. We don't have big things to cut anymore.
- (c) BOT materials are in the Meet and Confer files. It's very clear that Mankato is underfunded in comparison. 4-year sector as a whole is being strongly pressured.
- (d) Likely we will ask for largest tuition increase we are allowed as we will need the additional revenues. Students are disappointed about this needed tuition increase.
- (e) If nothing changes, we have 20 mil deficit.
- (f) Right now: Modeling a 5% - 7% tuition increase. We don't really think we will get financial relief from the BOT or system. Plans assume enrollments stay stable, with a 5-7% UG MN res tuition rate increase, still have 13-15 mil structural imbalance across FY26/FY27.
- (g) FY27- online tuition will flatten to be the same as in-person. Will not charge on-line non-MN rates. *(See slides for full details on possible tuition rates across sectors).*
- (h) **Ideas for reduction of budgets for FY27?** There are no easy answers. We have a minimum of probably 13 – 15 million in budget funding we need to address. We have cut all the big things already.
 - (i) **Discussion:**
 1. Tuition banding & overloads discussed again.
 2. Divisions have been asked to look at budgets and submit with 5% budget reduction options and/or revenue ideas to offset.
 - (ii) **Feedback to Anne G.**
 1. Anne would talk to us as a group, email her directly, or via budget sub-meet. Or Anonymous email.
 2. Can also send thoughts/questions to Alissa.

C. Advocacy Agenda [Edward Inch/Sheri Sargent]

D. Admin by Request [Joe Kmiech & Mike Menne] - Time Certain – 1:30 PM

1. *Admin by Request* is Admin Privilege management. New system to give us quick access to admin privileges to move along changes to our devices. This is not about taking away any privileges. It IS about doing changes securely. Balanced approach. Other campuses are using the same tool. Admin by Request is for PC – different system for Macs. Testing for the last month or so. “Automated” request process. See slides. They are also working to tailor policies so that certain apps will automatically come with requests. 15-minute window (currently set) only for the initial access, downloads will continue, etc. In testing now, campus planning, then rollout to come. Rollout plan will be communicated. They will occasionally audit the requests. It allows them to keep better track of softwares out there. It should decrease the load for IT to constantly manage admin rights. Admin by Request is a 3rd party vender which has a system contract. This contract is allowing us to more quickly access and roll this out. One more layer of protection.
2. Questions –
 - (a) what might this look like to the user? May not notice any differences.
 - (b) Is it for new systems only? Yes.
 - (c) If auto approval what the point? Malicious tools will be flagged and will not be approved. One more layer of defense to say it's not a good application to install. Vender will determine whether an app is safe or not. Email spam tool – it will also catch malicious links connected to emails.
 - (d) So, 3rd party vendor makes the decision as to what is okay? Yes, through a very broad process, work across many other systems, etc.
 - (e) Any impact on tablets and mobile? Mobile already works very differently and won't need this. App stores will do their own vetting.

- E. AI Task Force Proposal [**Joe Kmiech & Matt Clay**] - **Time Certain – 1:40 PM**
 - 1. Review the proposal in Meet & Confer files. AI TaskForce will help build some guardrails and mission to help the campus address AI issues. **Send feedback by March 20th**. Then it will go to cabinet. Email Matt Clay and Joe K. Will reshare after.
 - (a) Comment – Please do not do any double dipping with committee (i.e. Advising rep does not also serve as ASF rep). Will not. Already feedback they've received.
 - (b) AGI – what is this? Agentic AI. Not necessarily included in this, or AI will be an umbrella term which may include this. May not address this. Discussion ensued. Environmental and other impacts.
 - 2. ASF Member request for feedback to the proposal – by March 20

F. Jet Simulator Laboratory Naming Request [**Edward Inch**]

3. **Information Items:**

A. Mavericks Doing Amazing Things [**VP Reports**]

- A. Retro Game Night [**Brian Jones**]
- B. MinnState Executive Leader Development Program [**Travis Thul**]
- C. Mavericks in the Olympics [**Joe Kmiech**]

B. Campus procedure for students detained by immigration enforcement [**Brian Jones**]

C. Update on Moonshot - Student Success for All [**Henry Morris/Shauga Elbers**] - **Time Certain – 2:00 PM**

- 1. Henry overall update – Phase two moving along – stood up three more action teams. Leadership Dev and Change management, CPL, Academic Degree Maps. Slides will be updated on website soon.
- 2. Specifically **transfer related** projects as prompted by an email to Leadership from ASF:
 - (a) Shauna reviewed the presentation - **see slides in Meet & Confer**.
 - (b) Good discussion and questions followed. Highlights.
 - (i) Will add more about change management which is also a communications plan.
 - (ii) Will adjust the Transfer Student experience mapping / plan – so we can better address who owns a certain part of a process
 - (iii) Who owns transfer? AA has been charged to own academically the transfer process, but owned operationally across the divisions, depts., and faculty. Mike Bilden is creating workflow, agreements, students into the workflow.
 - (iv) Shauna will update slides with more details to show who is doing what. Shauna reported over 300 articulation agreements have been completed this year. ASF questioned this number. Shauna clarified that 300 articulation agreements have been signed.
 - (v) Mike's job – create a workflow and determine when an articulation agreement can be developed.
 - (vi) Transfer Governance Team – here at MSU - looking at barriers – is the larger org oversight group. Transfer MoonShot team – moonshot has been added to the Governance Team.
 - (vii) Updates and more info/better communications to come.

D. Multi-modal Teaching Update [**Michelle Moosally**]

E. Proposed Divisional Name Change [**Travis Thul**]

F. Update on CHSS Dean Search [**David Hood**]

4. **Administrative Reports [See Teams Site for Written Reports]**

- A. ITS Update [**Joe Kmiech**]
- B. Finance & Facilities Update [**Anne Gillespie**]
- C. Enrollment Update [**Brian Jones**]
- D. Administrative Services [**Sheri Sargent**]
- E. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion [**Henry Morris**]

Closing - meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm. Will move items not addressed (**highlighted**) to next meeting.

MSUAASF Meet & Confer Follow-Up Questions, Thoughts or Concerns from MSUAASF members or eligible members can be directed to: MSUAASF President: Alissa Morson, Alissa.morson@mnsu.edu.

2025-26 Meet and Confer Dates

September 4, 2025

October 2, 2025

November 6, 2025

December 4, 2025

January 29, 2026

February 26, 2026

March 26, 2026

April 30, 2026