Campus Assembly Remarks
November 29, 2012

Welcome

Welcome to the Fall 2012 meeting of the Campus Assembly. For those who are new, like me, this is the opportunity each semester for students, staff and faculty to meet and discuss campus wide issues, hear committee reports and make changes in committees. Thank you for attending participating today and a special welcome to our students and the student leaders who have joined us today.

Shared Governance

• Very important for a university
• We are far better together than individually
• We bring a diversity of perspectives
  o Particularly with all the different groups
• Not familiar with this structure – THANK the Executive Committee for helping me
• Looking forward to working with you

UMC Enrollment and Student Profile

• 1,802 Degree Seeking students for Fall 2012 (1,116 on campus, 686 online)
• Student Profile
  o Approximately 11% of our student body are students of color
  o Largest minority group is African American
  o Approximately 8% of our student body are international students
    ▪ Tom returned from a successful visit to build more partnerships
  o The majority of our students come from Greater Minnesota

New Staff and Faculty

• Over 50 new staff and faculty hires
  o New perspectives

New Administrative Structure at the System

• VP Jones will not be replaced, chancellors will report directly to President
• Chancellors pushing for a greater role in the System deliberations, especially around budget and capital projects
• Developing strong relationships with system and campus colleagues
Change in Administration Here

- Narrow the focus of VC for Academic Affairs
  - Focus on the academic mission
  - Takes advantage of my experience and background
  - Better for recruitment
  - Thank you for input

VC Position Update

- Listening sessions were held on Monday. A position description has been finalized and this position will be advertised very soon (days) and recruit nationally during the months of December and January. The Committee will then review the applications and have confidential semi-finalist interviews during the month of February with the hope of having on-campus interviews during March.

Budget

- Paying our bills
- Strong enrollment is important
- Work with state legislators, may be more favorable, still limited funds
- Budget Proposal is good one
- Will put out a call once we have compact directions
  - To meet the needs of compact process
  - To provide a wish list and brief rationale
  - Will help me understand the needs and dreams

Capital Projects

- Residence Hall is delayed a couple of weeks, but will move students in before Spring Semester.
  - Congratulations to everyone that was involved
  - Good to get students out of the Northland
- Classroom upgrades and Office Moves
  - Thank you all for your patience
  - Just finished the offices in Athletics
- Erberts and Gerberts
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning needs work
Recognitions

- Our students are doing well and placing in regional and national competitions. Receiving awards from the Twin Cities, etc.
- Numerous faculty have been published recently
- We’ve received a number of grants
- Working with others, including the awards committee on a Spring reception

Community and Regional Partnerships

- Meetings and more meetings
- Working all sides of the aisle
- Much to be done to “tell our story”

Fundraising Projects

- Scholarships – need to directly help our students
- Academic Programs – grants, foundations, philanthropy
  - Chairs and Professorships
- Wellness and Recreation center (fundraising)...moved a year earlier
- Turf project (fundraising with community/high school)

Meetings on Campus

- Staff and Faculty – hear the stories and experiences
- Students – hear the stories and experiences

Reflections

- Students are inspirational
  - Care about the place
  - Doing great things
  - As good as you will find anywhere
- Extremely student-centered
  - Staff and Faculty care about the campus
  - Extraordinary commitment to students
- For the region – we are the University of Minnesota
- Great people here – on campus and in the region, just like my mother
- Mary and I are very comfortable here – Mary needs to care for her mother (89)
- Thank you for being so welcoming