

Chancellor's Cabinet

March 30, 2009

8:00 a.m.

Present:

Chuck Casey, Peter Phaiah, Tricia Sanders, Andrew Svec, Les Johnson

- I. Minutes- Tom made a motion to accept Cabinet Minutes from March 23, 2009. Andrew seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- II. Old Business
 - A. **President's Rescheduled Visit to UMC**- It appears President Bruininks will visit our campus on Thursday, Apr. 16th. This the same day as Campus Assembly (noon-2p). Perhaps this would be a good venue for him to address the campus. This tentative schedule is being developed.

 - B. **Meal Plan Options**- Peter presented the group with various meal plan scenarios and sub-options.
 - He first presented a comparison of the FY '09 meal plan to a FY '10 option with a 5.2% increase. This is the amount Sodexo indicated they would need to increase our cost for next year's meal plans.
 - Since many residents living in campus apartments were asking for a 4th option, Peter also presented scenarios with a Plan D for campus apartment dwellers only. Due to the cost formulas presented by Sodexo, the addition of a 4th meal plan would be more expensive per meal for those residents eligible to take it.
 - Peter also shared the impact of a 5.2% increase and a 4th column would have to the sliding scale. Several of the options were shown with and without using Plan D being applied to the sliding scale.
 - The group also reviewed the impact of the "One Price" option of 3 meal plans (A,B&C). Peter showed the impact of all three plans costing the students \$1,300 and \$1,500 a semester. Sometimes students have selected the cheapest meal plan rather the one that best meets their needs. The one price model is used at other institutions so Peter reviewed the concept with Sodexo and ran the numbers.
 - Peter also informed the group that many of the scenarios are based on several assumptions including Brink Hall will be utilized next year and a higher percentage of eligible residents won't leave the meal plan. If a larger number of residents opt-out of the meal plan we may have to reconsider expanding the meal plan requirement to include this year's freshmen who will be sophomores next year. Peter presented a scenario that included a required meal plan for both freshmen and sophomores.
 - Tricia questioned Peter on cost of several of the scenarios that appeared to be too high. Peter indicated that he knew the numbers for the various scenarios would not be great for the University and some would not turn out good for the students. He said we needed to find the best combination of plans, flexibility, service and price that would be justifiable and acceptable to everyone. This is only one step in finding that plan.
 - Peter told the group he would share the various concepts with CSA and RHA in the next week or so. He also said that Brink would only have a slight impact on the total numbers.

- Nelson Hard, UofM Asst. Director of Food Service Contracts, was scheduled to be on Campus today but this visit was postponed due to the road conditions. Peter talked to him via the telephone regarding the meal plan options. Nelson will reschedule sometime this month.
- C. **Residence Hall Phone Service-** Peter and Tricia discussed the current telephone service and charges to the students in the residence halls (\$25/resident/semester). This topic has been under review due to discussions related to telephone needs in Centennial II. It was suggested that Centennial II be wired for phone service but it not be activated at this time. There will be active phones in the common areas and at the office. Peter informed the group that only 2% of the residents have used their room phones this year, according to Jeff Sinks. As we had suspected, most are using cellular phones. Gary Willhite had asked for some data to try to ascertain actual use and actual cost associated to the phone system. Since Jeff has based his budget on the current policy he needed some time to gather additional information. We will continue this conversation at Cabinet as we obtain that information.
- D. **Residence Hall Tour-** There is a tour of Centennial II scheduled for noon on Wednesday, April 1st. Everyone will meet at the south entrance of Sports Center. Some individuals will then take a tour of Brink to review the water damage, repair efforts and discuss disposition of the facility.
- E. **UMM Choir-** Chuck told the group he had heard the UMM Choir perform at a Church in Mentor. He said they sounded great and this was part of their Spring Concert Tour.
- F. **Budget Discussion–** Chuck and Tom attended last Friday’s Faculty Assembly. A few faculty members voiced their concern about recently announced budgets and personnel adjustments. There was also a resolution presented by CSA regarding shared governance. Chuck reviewed University policy and authority with Cabinet to validate UMC’s decisions. The budget and personnel adjustments that were submitted were those Chuck had reviewed with the campus at several forums and in his written updated to the campus. Faculty, staff and students all had an opportunity to make suggestions and recommendations. Most, if not all of the changes were addressed in the recent survey conducted by FCC. Chuck said Cabinet and the Executive Committee had a strategic timeline for gathering campus-wide input, formulating options and for the release of this information. Chuck had previously told the campus this information would be released by April 1st .
- G. **Center for Sustainability-** Chuck told the group that one of the benefits that came from the Department consolidation was the Center for Sustainability. This has been a goal of the campus and the change now helps that to be possible. Dan Svedarsky will head-up that initiative.
- H. **Star Tribune Article-** Chuck shared an article with the group that was printed in the Star Tribune. It was related to “Dealing with Anger Brought About by the Threat off Lay-off”

The next meeting will be 8:30 a.m. on Monday, March 13, 2009.

Respectively Submitted ,

Peter Phaiah