



UMC Executive Committee
Minutes
June 18, 2009

Present: Sue Brorson, Michelle Christopherson, Andrew Svec, Amber Evans-Dailey, Les Johnson, Tim Norton, Kim Gillette, Tom Baldwin, Stephanie Helgeson, Tricia Sanders, Jeff Sperling, Jack Geller, Ron Del Vecchio, Dan Svedarsky, Chancellor Casey, Chris Winjum, Sara Kaiser, Bob Nelson, Peter Phaiah, Marsha Odom, Sharon Stewart, Adel Ali

Guest(s):

In these minutes: New business/old business, President's Budget Presentation to the Board of Regents, Retreat Follow-up, Engagement Committee, Member Updates

Old Business/New Business

- Chancellor Casey introduced Chris Winjum, Assistant to the Chancellor.

President's Budget Presentation to the Board of Regents – Chancellor Casey

- Chancellor Casey explained the details of this presentation
Key Conclusions of the Presentation:
- **Our state budget base is being cut substantially.** In two years we will have significantly less state support than we do today.
- **This is not a short-term problem.** Reductions could set our state budget base back 10 years, with no guarantees for the future.
- **Federal stimulus funds are a temporary bridge to the future.** They enable us to lower costs for students and more gradually achieve required cost savings and revenue enhancements.
- **Tuition provides essential operating revenue.** Beginning next year tuition revenue will be more important than ever before.
- **We can maintain affordability.** We must continue fundraising and increase financial aid for Minnesota students.
- **The next two years are critical.** We must refine our long-term resource strategy, reduce costs and grow revenue while improving productivity and maintaining quality.
(Contact Chris if anyone wants a copy of the presentation)

Discussion took place during and after Chancellor Casey's presentation. The themes of the discussion were:

- UMC has many out of state students who won't get some of the tuition breaks
- Online students can take advantage of many of these tuition breaks
- Letters will be sent to UMC students explaining these financial implications
- This is not just a 'rough patch' but instead the new reality of Higher Education funding in MN
- Data will be pulled together to look internally at UMC data regarding state funding vs tuition
- UMC's 5 proposals requesting Federal Stimulus money. These proposals total around \$800,000
- Proposals for new degree programs need to be submitted to the Regents

Retreat Follow-up – Chancellor Casey

- Chancellor Casey gave a handout of the survey results from the Exec Retreat
- There were a limited number of responses, but it still gives a general idea of where UMC stands in those areas
- Chancellor Casey mentioned using Executive Meetings to report on the 3 areas discussed at the retreat of 'Recruitment & Retention', 'Financial Futures', and 'Academic Programs & Development'.

Retention Committee – Amber Evans-Dailey

- Amber gave a 'Retention Committee Proposal' handout and discussed why a retention plan is important.

- Amber suggested working groups be created in these areas 'At-Risk Student', 'GenEd 1000', 'Retained Student', 'AQIP Project', 'Advising', '7 Principles' and a 'Student Commission on Retention'

Discussion took place during and after Amber's talk. The themes of the discussion were:

- Should Department Heads provide suggestions for members to these committees
- What is the criteria for member representation in the working groups
- Committees can become too big, need to trust that our colleagues on committees will represent us
- Concern over how this is presented, makes sure it is understand that this is a starting point/draft
- Concern over having too much committee work
- Look over the handout and bring any suggestions to Amber. We can review this plan again at the July 3rd Exec Meeting and plan to bring something to the campus community shortly after

Engagement Committee – Jack Geller

- Jack gave an 'Engagement Committee Update' handout and discussed what this young committee has done so far
- Besides 'Recruitment & Retention', 'Financial Futures', and 'Academic Programs & Development', this committee decided that 'Campus Climate' needed to be one of its charges based on the feedback from the retreat
- Have notes of Retreat sent to faculty/staff listserv and encourage feedback to either an email address, blog site, or moodle site
- Setup website to track progress of various campus committees
- Request a half day to engage faculty and staff during 'welcome back' week.

Discussion took place during and after Jack's talk. The themes of the discussion were:

- Some concern over representation on the engagement committee
- Committee will accept anyone who wants to be on it....don't want to have an exclusive engagement committee
- We need to keep working on this type of committee work so we have a 'starting point' to present to the campus community.....again, making sure it is understand that this is a starting point/draft
- It was suggested to refer to this group as the 'Engagement Work Group' instead of committee
- The few Open Thursday Commons dates may be time to discuss progress on these different work groups

Member Updates

Adel Ali – Math, Science & Technology

- Went to China had a very productive trip
- There are a number of students that want to come to UMC

Sue Brorson – Business

- Extended offer for Econ position
- Need to fill 2 positions
- Dowell Hall is under construction again this summer

Michelle Christopherson – Center for Adult Learning

- Awarded Digital Campus Calling Center Award
- Searching for a new position (grant funded)
- Using a new online Logo
- Going to a career fair in Rochester

Ron Del Vecchio - Agriculture

- Equine camp starting this coming week
- Searching for Agonomy and Turf positions
- Working on articulation agreements
- Continuing with the transition to new department

Amber Evans-Dailey - Admissions

- Polk county fair booth needs volunteers

- o Sending post cards to HS students to visit UMC booth at Polk County Fair
- o Reviewing list of nonregistered student

Jack Geller – Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

- o Passed the Presidency off at the MN Rural Health Conference
- o Broadband task force meetings

Kim Gillette – International Programs

- o Three ESL faculty went to China to provide instruction in ESL for Zhejiang Economic & Trade Polytechnic. The ESL program runs the month of July.
- o Students returned from study abroad trip to China. Soo-Yin Lim Thompson was the faculty leader for the trip.
- o Attended a retreat with various faculty/staff from UMC. The retreat looked at expanding the curriculum integration project (infusing study abroad into the curriculum) to internationalizing the students' experiences and what does that mean.
- o Zhejiang Forestry University (with whom we have an exchange agreement) is now teaching some of their courses in English which will open up a new study abroad site for our students

Stephanie Helgeson – Athletics

- o Had the Highway 2 Golf Classic – good turnout
- o Next Thursday Hallock Golf Tournament
- o Coaches are out recruiting
- o Met the \$80,000 corporate sponsored fund raising goal to buy new scoreboards
- o Kristen Spaeth hired as Assistant Athletic Trainer

Tim Norton – Facilities & Operations

- o Centennial Hall carpet is being installed in the North wing
- o Centennial Hall gathering space should be operational by homecoming
- o Capital planning meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2009 and members of CPPM are coming up to UMC to assist with the Master Plan development.
- o System wide energy and fuel consultant has been hired. US Energy (<http://usenergyservices.com/Public/default.html>) will assist UMC with utility management needs.

Peter Phaiah – Student Affairs

- o Reminder, if looking at policy change, try to tag onto existing one instead of creating new
- o Emergency Management Coordination Committee being formed

Tricia Sanders – Finance

- o Finished entering Budget for next year
- o Working on year end cleanup

Jeff Sperling – Technology Support Services

- o Purchasing network infrastructure for dorms
- o Recently obtained campus blueprints, which helps in working with network infrastructure
- o Notebook gifting for Spring semester nearly complete

Andrew Svec - Communications

- o NW Ag School Reunion June 26 and 27
- o Booth at Polk County fair, looking for people to work it
- o UMC will have a presence in the OX Cart parade and also put on an Ice Cream Social
- o UMC will have a Booth at State Fair, let him know if anyone wants to help with it

Sharon Stewart – Faculty

- o Teaching online courses

Bob Nelson – Registrar/Institutional Research

- o Updating institutional research reports on website

Marsha Odom - Faculty

- MN Legislature passed new licensure requirement

Sara Kaiser -

- Registering students

Respectfully submitted by Chris Winjum