

## FACULTY ASSOCIATION MEET AND CONFER

Thursday, March 17, 2011

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

CSU 204

(Faculty Chair/Administration Agenda)

### NOTES

**Attendance:**

**Faculty:** Roger Severns, chair, Mary Visser, Paul Hustoles, Barbara Carson, Kelly Krumwiede, Richard Liebendorfer, Andrew Johnson, Becky Schwartzkopf, Gregg Marg, Jeffrey Bumgarner, Andi Lassiter, Ellen Mrja, Bill Wagner, Bobby Bothman, John Seymour, Ron Nickerson

**Management:** Richard Davenport, Anne Blackhurst, Mary Dowd, Henry Morris, Avra Johnson, Warren Sandmann, recorder, Becky Barkmeier, Rick Straka

**Guest:** Amy Mukamuri

FA President Severns called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**1. Information Items—**

**a. Reorder/Additions:** None.

**b. FA President's Report (Roger Severns):** Roger Severns: Very brief: First issue is rooms. CSU 201-204 will be closed early in the fall. We may need to use the Heritage Room or Johnson Alumni Room as needed. Notehall.com - More than one faculty member has complained about students using D2L information and selling it on Notehall.com. Mary Dowd has spoken to students about this. Mary Visser: I want to commend Student Affairs on this issue and how they have worked with students and faculty on this issue. Roger Severns: The spring Department Chairs' Workshop is postponed and moved to the end of April. There is concern about a number of issues at the legislature on the health insurance bill and pension bill. I will be meeting with Rick Straka, Bob Hoffman, Bill Wagner and Warren Sandmann on a proposed new funding model for Extended Learning. We continue to have challenges with the Iron Range Engineering Program, but we had a very productive meeting last week. Keeping fingers crossed, but we are in the process of making some progress.

**c. MSU President's Report (Richard Davenport):** President Davenport: Congratulations to our Theater Program for the selection of the "The Odyssey" for performance at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. FA: From 200,000 students and more than 1,000 plays, four were selected - we are one of the four. President Davenport: We were in the Elite Eight Men's Basketball Finals. We had a big crowd at Bresnan for the regional final game. FA: We also have the national champion pole-vaulter. FA: We have a preview performance on April 18 of "The Odyssey". President Davenport: The reason I need to leave at 4:00 p.m. today is for a conference call for MnSCU Presidents and CFOs on the House Higher Education finance bill. This bill is likely to set the budget target for our cuts. We will release information as soon as possible. I want to thank Roger Severns for being present at the Iron

Range Engineering meeting to help us move forward with this important curriculum project. This is a big issue politically but also in terms of our engineering program accreditation.

**d. MSU VPASA Report (Anne Blackhurst):** Vice President Blackhurst: Four announcements 1) Dean searches - College of Business in final stages; College of Science, Engineering and Technology is screening applications. 2) We have 25 Japanese students on campus; we are in contact with them and stand ready to help as needed. If you need, please do not hesitate to refer students for counseling as needed. We have one student in Japan right now and are in daily contact with that student. President Davenport: We also have one staff member's daughter living near Tokyo, and lots of other people with connections and contacts in Japan. Vice President Blackhurst: 3) we will be postponing the Department Chairs' Workshop. Topic was Students First and Smart Transfer, both of which have great impact on all services. We postponed because we just do not have accurate information. 4) There is a proposal for a faculty development center. This is in the very early stages and was introduced at the Extended Learning Sub Meet this week, will also go to the Faculty Development Sub Meet, and then to Meet and Confer. The proposal is to bring together all the services to one physical location. FA: How will this feedback come to administration? Vice President Blackhurst: Through Extended Learning and Faculty Development Sub Meet and Meet and Confer.

**e. Human Resources Topics (Becky Barkmeier):**

i. Classified/Unclassified Positions were distributed.

#### **Action Items--**

**a. University Calendars (Warren Sandmann):** Associate Vice President Sandmann distributed draft FY14-16 calendars. The University Calendar Committee met early last fall to draft these and they were out for public comment. Looking for the Meet and Confer to recommend these for approval. They can still be amended as needed. President and Cabinet will make final approval. The calendars only indicate holidays that all university employees receive, not those that are bargaining unit specific. Drafts were approved to move on to the President and Cabinet for approval.

#### **Discussion Items--**

**a. MnSCU/Legislative Relations (Standing):** President Davenport: The only thing other than the status on budget appropriation is the issue of bonding - not too much else has changed. We do have a bonding bill that is co-sponsored in the House and in the Senate and bipartisan. The Governor did not support bonding City projects, however, we are continuing to work. If MnSCU gets bonded, we have good chance, but City projects will probably have precedence over MnSCU.

**b. Budget and Planning Process (Rick Straka) (Standing):** Vice President Straka: We need HEAPER money for Library roof repair; if not we will need local money. FY 12: The target is still a 16 percent cut, but is that Higher Ed in general or MnSCU? Still need to know. Sixteen percent reduction in our allocation is 7 million dollars, close to what we were planning. The two things that have changed are that we are up 400 first-year students in enrollment, which is almost \$2.8 million in tuition which can be used to reduce the budget cuts. The next piece is inflation for compensation. Looking like politically there may be another flat settlement. There will be some inflation compensation costs, but less than planned, so looking at another \$1.5 million less in cuts - now down to \$1.5-4 million cut. \$4 million cut is now our worst case

scenario. We need to get the dollars out to the departments to fill and staff the sections. I am more optimistic than I was a year ago. Next year we look high on new entering first-year and transfer students as well as graduate students. Housing numbers also look good, so we anticipate being able to roll this money into base. Roger Severns: A \$16 million cut from \$630 million or \$650 million? Vice President Straka: That is the question that has not yet been answered. One-time funding, we had 83 requests for approximately \$33 million for the \$3.5 million in available funds. We need feedback; we are being as transparent as we can. All proposals that were submitted are public for review and will be reviewed by sub meets and a public forum. These will come to the April Meet and Confer for preliminary review and May for final review. FA: What kinds of feedback do you want? Vice President Straka: Can be very specific to each proposal, or to the type of proposal. Roger Severns: One proposal was from Kevin Buisman for Taylor Center classrooms - would these classrooms be available for all? Vice President Straka: Yes. Vice President Blackhurst: There is a similar proposal from Academic Affairs that is specifically from Social and Behavioral Sciences but the classrooms would be open to all. Vice President Straka: This would move the planned redesign of Taylor up from the plan to use bonding dollars from the Clinical Sciences building.

**c. Draft Article 22 Calendars (Warren Sandmann):** To be reviewed and brought back to April Meet and Confer for final discussion.

**d. One-Time Funding Update (Rick Straka):** This was covered in the Budget and Planning process.

**e. FY12 Reinvestment (Rick Straka):** This was covered in the Budget and Planning process.

**f. 4:15 Time Certain: Intensive English Language Institute (Amy Mukamuri):** In brief: The proposal is aligned with numerous strategic priorities and the university mission, involves a number of stakeholders including the faculty association, the deans, the colleges, the students. Two models proposed: 1) summer intensive culture and language immersion for non-MSU students, which would include programs specific to the students coming in and would not involve MSU credit - these would be run through Extended Learning and result in non-credit certificates; 2) involves the Teaching English as a Second Language graduate program faculty and graduate teaching assistants working with students whom would be provisionally admitted to Minnesota State Mankato and would work on language skills while doing general education courses. The hope is to make this profitable by the end of the second year. SCSU already does this, as do other MnSCU institutions and other Higher Ed institutions. This could be for international and domestic immigrant populations. FA: We have looked at developing a non-profit program to teach English to Latino students. Dean Morris: I want to emphasize that this could really benefit our native students with limited language skills. FA: Will this come to Extended Learning for review? Amy Mukamuri: Yes, as this goes forward. Roger Severns: What about our Chinese pilots? Amy Mukamuri: That has been discussed as well.

**g. Summit on Shared Governance and Communication (FA):** FA President Severns: We put this in, and have discussed this with administration. We would like to see if people think this is a good idea; if so, we would need to do this in April. Vice President Blackhurst: We are in favor of the idea and would need guidance to how to set it up to be useful for faculty and meet the concerns of faculty. President Davenport: This could be a summit on more than just shared governance; it could include students first, or strategic priorities. We have not had a summit for awhile, and this seems like a good time to do this as we have had some rough budget times. I

support, but know we have lots to do as we go forward. FA President Severns: We will plan to have this go forward for mid-April. FA: People are really feeling hit, we have had lots of things going against us. FA President Severns: This might be worthwhile just to get us talking about this. Vice President Straka: We agree - we need to get the discussion started, need to be timely especially to get money out and sections staffed. We need to start planning and getting going on reinvestment. President Davenport: We can be optimistic, but we do have to watch for the Legislature and a tuition freeze. The Legislature may ask for a freeze, may be higher for 2-years than us, but tuition freeze is still a possibility. Vice President Blackhurst: Please get ideas on the focus for the summit to Roger Severns and Mary Visser. We have gotten very different ideas on what shared governance means from different groups. So we need to maybe look at process as well as issues - which is most important. FA: Maybe a third process - content and tone.

**h. Flood Preparations (FA):** FA President Severns: Faculty may be interested in helping in some way and we will let people know about this early next week. Mary Dowd: We are encouraging students to volunteer with different agencies and will coordinate with faculty.

**i. LOU: Cross Rostering (FA):** FA President Severns: We just handed out a copy of a Letter of Understanding on cross-rostering. This has been worked on at the state level for almost a year. This is an outgrowth of a grievance at Southwest, and issues at SCSU. This should not affect us that much as it pretty much mirrors what we already do. But we will have to watch this in terms of for example, Iron Range Engineering. This may also affect departments that have been merged, such as some in the College of Education. FA: So it says how many years you have to get cross-rostered? Roger Severns: This lays out the criteria for cross-rostering. Three years at 50 percent is the key. This would probably most effect merged departments. Director Barkmeier: This has always been in the contract, this just details it. FA President Severns: Please take a look and see if it affects you.

The meeting ended 3:58 p.m.

---

Warren Sandmann  
Reviewer for Management

---

Paul J. Hustoles  
Reviewer for Faculty