

Northland Community & Technical College

AFSCME Staff Advisory Council Meeting

January 11, 2011

TRF Campus, Room 662, EGF Campus Room 301

10 a.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Lynell Wayne, Jenny Donarski, Lynn McGlynn, Danika Braaten, Bryan Berger, Anne Temte, Becky Lindseth.

Absent: Bonnie Klasen, Allison Scott, Jerry Hanson, Kent Hanson, Jenna Grabowska

Topic	Responsible Party	Discussion/Outcome
Call to order	Temte	
Final Exam Schedule	Temte	A member inquired about how the final exam schedules are determined, and why they are different from one semester to the next, or year to year. President Temte stated that the academic calendar is developed by a committee of faculty and administration, generally a year or more in advance. The calendar is based on the number of instructional days that are available in each semester, taking all holidays into consideration. There have been changes to finals schedules, for example, next year they will be reduced from four to three days. Some faculty don't utilize the final exam days for their finals, and instead finish their classes and finals the week prior. The final exam days are part of the 171-day faculty contract, so if we were to eliminate the final exam days, they would be regular class days instead. Discussions are being held with faculty leadership on making other changes to the exam schedule for future years. Members stated that sometimes students are frustrated because they may finish one class on a Friday, but have to return for another class final the following week
Building or Remodeling Plans	Lindseth	Becky addressed an inquiry from a member regarding building and remodeling plans for either campus this summer. She reported that the college received capital bonding funds in the 2010 session and funds have been used for projects at TRF and EGF, and more are yet to be completed. Projects still planned are: TRF: 1) mothballing the Cosmetology area; 2) Making improvements in Massage

		<p>Therapy lab and Automotive Shops; EGF: 1) revamp current maintenance garage into new Architectural Technology space (will occur this spring, to be ready for fall 2011); 2) vacating the Auto I Shop space. Airport Site: Some remodeling to classrooms will occur.</p> <p>Longer-term plans are to mothball space and revamp Room 129 at EGF. She reported that the college did not submit a capital bonding request for 2012, but a special initiative request was submitted to MnSCU (\$525,000), which will involve improvements to the EGF Rad Tech area.</p>
President's Update	Temte	<p>President Temte reported that there are exciting things happening for the college recently. Senator Al Franken met with administration and city officials on Monday, January 10th at the airport site to learn more about the UAS program and its potential. His office is very supportive of the initiatives we are pursuing in this field. Upcoming meetings will be held with federal and state legislators from MN and ND to keep them informed of the need for funding and various changes needed to accomplish the goals. The UAS industry has the potential of attracting students, but also the development of related businesses to the region. Airspace issues are being discussed at the federal level.</p> <p>President Temte reported that Governor Mark Dayton would be in TRF on Tues, January 11th, for a private luncheon with Digi-Key, Arctic Cat, and other community leaders. Efforts will be made to arrange for a brief stop at the airport site if time permits before he departs from the airport.</p> <p>We are receiving positive feedback from MnSCU Board of Trustees Chair Scott Thiss, and that feedback is being heard throughout the state. That feedback can produce a positive impact on enrollments, funding opportunities, etc. Lynn reported that ten new students enrolled for spring semester, bringing the total enrollment for aviation to more than 60 students. There are currently 80 prospects for the UAS program next fall, and 100 prospects for the Aviation Maintenance program. MnSCU recently approved the UAS program so students will be able to enroll as soon as the schedules are developed.</p>
Weight Watchers in the Workplace	Wayne	<p>Lynell Wayne inquired, as chair of the TRF Healthy Campus Committee, about the possibility of organizing and conducting a Campus Weight Watchers group, to meet on campus. She will obtain more information and meet with Cindy Cedergren on facility usage details.</p>
Staff In-Service	Braaten	<p>Danika Braaten forwarded an inquiry from a member about whether or not there would</p>

		be a Staff In-Service held this semester. She indicated that the Professional Development Committee may be interested in bringing in (and funding) a speaker. Becky stated she wasn't sure if there was a day specified on the calendar for a spring in-service, but she would bring it to Cabinet for discussion this week.
Adjourned at 10:35 a.m.		
Next meeting		Tues, Feb. 8, 2011; 10 a.m., Rooms E-301, T-545

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