

President's Council Minutes

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Location: TRF Room 662/EGF 290 Video Conference



Present: Dennis Bona, Curtis Zoller, Carey Castle, James Retka, Kristi Lane, Shannon Jesme, Mary Fontes, Chad Sperling, Brian Huschle, Jodi Stauss-Stassen, Lars Dyrud, and Julie Fenning (recorder).

1. Financial Aid – Jerry Schulte

- a. **Work Study Wages** – Jerry Schulte reported that Northland has received additional allocation from the federal government for work study funds. We have not been spending all of these funds. He is proposing an increase in work study wages. Currently students make \$10.50 per hour during their first year, and \$11.00 per hour during their second year students. He is proposing to increase wages to \$11.50 for all students/positions. He shared there is still a problem finding enough work study students, as well as enough employees who want work study students.
ACTION: The new rate was approved.
- b. **Default Rate (3 year rate)** – At one time, Northland's default rate for student loans was 19%. Anything above 15 % required colleges to do multiple disbursements. We are currently at 11.9% and are not required to continue the multiple disbursements. Jerry asked the group if he should continue multiple disbursements or return to the single disbursement. The BOFAR group recommended that we stay with the current process of multiple disbursements. President's Council supported their recommendation. **ACTION:** Jerry will send a report with the total amount of financial aid that has been distributed over the past three years.

2. President's Report – Dennis Bona

- a. **NextGen Experience Workshops** – Workshops have been scheduled for April 11 in various locations across the state. Dr. Bona shared that we should have some representation from Northland attend. He requested that we have three or four staff who use ISRS a large amount participate in this workshop. Brian shared that ELearning committee members might be interested in these as well. **ACTION:** Dr. Bona will send a request to faculty leadership for faculty participants. Mary will send a request to Jason Pangiarella for student participation, and Mary will assign someone from student services to participate.
- b. **Summer Hours** – There was discussion regarding summer hours and if we would continue closing early on Fridays. Last year the buildings closed at 3:00 p.m. Due to moving business hours to 4:30 p.m., it was determined to close the buildings at 2:30 p.m. this summer. **ACTION:** Kristi will send out the specific dates for the summer hour schedule.

3. Student Services – Mary Fontes

- a. **Enrollment Update** – FYE is 2100. This increase was due to 80 FBM registrations. Headcount was 4522 unduplicated, which is down 271 from last year.
- b. **TRIO SSS Grant** – Mary shared that there is another TRIO grant opportunity. Northland could apply for this individually or possibly in partnership with the consortium. The Distance Minnesota grant writer has offered to assist in writing the proposal. **ACTION:** Mary will bring this idea to the consortium leadership for discussion.

4. Marketing Update – Chad Sperling

- a. **Reinvigorating "Northland Currents"** – Chad shared that the Grand Forks herald is reinventing themselves. Northland used to write a weekly article discussing multiple topics on the college. TRF times was giving us space each week. Dr. Bona shared that weekly is too often. He requested that Chad restructure the model to make it more manageable. The first article will

be the Ag/UMC MOU. **ACTION:** Curtis will write the first article. **ACTION:** Chad will work on a schedule.

5. Foundation – Lars Dyrud provided an update on Foundation activities.

- a. **Engelstad Challenge** – At \$96,500 have until April 1st - Focusing on cash donations.
- b. **Sanford** - Sanford will be giving \$100,000 over 10 years for scholarships.
- c. **Student Housing** – Lars is working on temporary housing for Digi-Key construction contractors and interns for Textron. The goal is to dedicate one building for this temporary housing. Lars does not expect to turn away any students.
- d. **Workforce Development Scholarships** – Lars shared that all 16 scholarship recipients were selected today. \$2,500 each. An announcement will be made in the near future.
- e. **Annual Golf Tournament** – Lars is exploring hosting the annual golf tournament in Red Lake Falls, possibly in early September. The Foundation board is working through the planning process.

6. Human Resources – Kristi Lane

- a. **Frontline Conference** – Please encourage/support employee attendance.
- b. **Training** – The system office will be offering the Investigator/Decision Maker training in the near future. Kristi will contact those who will need to attend.
- c. **Policy Update** – Affirmative Consent Policy was updated.
- d. **Corvel Expires in June** – The Minnesota workers compensation vendor contract will expire in June. They are expecting major increases over the next few years.

7. Academics – Carey Castle and Deans

- a. **Strategic Planning Update** – Dates have been set for input gathering sessions. The online survey is being developed and will be available on April 1 – May 10. **ACTION:** Dr. Bona will send an email to all employees.
- b. **Living Room Conversations** – Curtis Zoller shared a proposal for rolling out the program, along with associated costs. It was determined that he would begin Phase I of the project working with the Equity and Inclusion committee.
- c. **August In-Service** – Jodi shared that the focus of the in-service would be on incivility on campus. She is working to secure a speaker for the morning session.
- d. **Graduation Stoles** – Jodi shared that last year students were allowed to purchase stoles with club funds. It was determined that stoles would be allowed only if they were earned through Northland's recognition process: Honor Students and PTK students.
- e. **Campus Management Reporting:** Time did not allow for these items.
 - i. Thief River Falls – Mike Curfman
 - ii. East Grand Forks – Brian Huschle

8. Finance and Facilities – Shannon Jesme – Time did not allow for these items.

- a. Prizes and Gifts
- b. Facilities
- c. Bookstore Update
- d. Radio Station Update
- e. Food Service Update

9. Policies & Procedures - None

10. Adjournment 12:00 p.m.