

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Wednesday, September 2, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Location: **Zoom**

Minutes

Present: Dennis Bona, Curtis Zoller, Shannon Jesme, Jodi Stauss-Stassen, Lars Dyrud, Mary Fontes, Chad Sperling, Brian Huschle, Jim Retka, Mike Curfman, and Julie Fenning (recorder).

1. President's Report

- a. **Student Welcome – Mask Give Away Today!** 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Dr. Bona asked all administration to participate. Tables have been set up in the commons on each location and masks are being given away to students while supplies last.
- b. **President's "Bubble" Letter** – Dr. Bona shared details regarding his transition and his new decision-making requirements. All major decisions need to be approved by system office leadership.
- c. **COVID-19 Update**
 - i. **Minnesota State COVID Calls** – Only one representative from each institution and an alternate. Shannon and Mike will be Northland's representatives.
 - ii. **System-wide Dashboard for Web Site** – Minnesota State is creating a public dashboard with COVID case information for each institution. Human Resources is providing the information for Northland. More information to come.
 - iii. **Screening Tool Reports** – Mike shared the new reports from the screening tool. These reports are used to follow up with employees and students who did not pass the assessment. He shared that overall there looks to be good compliance. If numbers trend downward, we may reinstate door checks.
 - iv. **Fall Staffing** – Dr. Bona stated that they need to re-evaluate the business need for employees to be on campus vs. teleworking. **ACTION:** Supervisors will review each position to see whether the employee needs to be on campus to serve students and employees. Faculty have established their schedules. It was determined that the administrative team needs to have a presence on each campus. Teleworking will begin September 16th.
- d. **Budget Update**
 - i. Enrollment is down 16%. The unexpected decrease is with College in the High School. Area high schools are not registered at this time. FBM students are not in the system yet as they are behind with implementing new procedures.
 - ii. EGF Food Service – East Side Eatery traffic is down substantially. They are looking at making staff adjustments.
- e. **In-Service Follow-up/Feedback** – **ACTION:** Brian will work with Peggy Rogers and Dorinda Sorvig (faculty professional development coordinators) on a follow-up survey to be sent to all employees.
- f. **Strategic Plan Update** – **ACTION:** President's Council will review the strategic initiatives document and send project updates to Julie to bring to the next meeting for final review.
- g. **EGF Chamber Golf Tournament** – Dr. Bona is participating in the Chamber golf tournament on September 10th and needs one additional golfer. Brian Huschle volunteered.



2. Action Items

- a. **Baseball Backstop Replacement** – The current backstop needs major repair or replacement. **ACTION:** Shannon will request a quote for the project. Lars shared that he has some donor interest for a new scoreboard for the baseball program. The coach is also requesting a press box on the east side of the back stop. Clinton is working on getting a quote for that project as well. Dr. Bona stated that while many athletic programs and activities are on hold, Northland continues to invest in our athletics for the future. **ACTION:** Chad will communicate this statement on the athletic website.
- b. **TRF College Signage** – Shannon shared that Joel Ziegler and the TRF welding students are working on creating new N logos for display in the EGF foyer, TRF Gunderson Commons, and at the west entrance in the TRF campus. It was determined that the Northland wordmark will be the signage for the Northland Store. The signs will be made from stainless steel. Shannon is also looking at signage above student services departments on the steel grids. The TRF Campus Revitalization work group is working on these projects. This is a subgroup of the Facilities/Technology Committee. The goal is to have completed by the end of the semester.

3. Discussion Items

- a. **Autobody/Auto Tech Department of Labor Grant Submission** – Curtis shared details regarding an upcoming Department of Labor grant. The ceiling of the grant would be \$5 million and would include capacity building, new resources, equipment, and positions. The scope would be focused on programs needing major upgrades including autobody, auto service, mechatronics, and electronics. The goals would be curriculum development, CBE development, virtual learning environments, and developing a mentor/instructor program. Partners include NCAT, Kellogg, and several others. Northland's piece will also include a large piece for institutional research. The deadline is in October. Curtis will bring forward for formal approval at a later date.

4. Informational Items

- a. **Personnel Update**
 - i. Interim President/President – Mike shared the draft timeline for the interim and permanent president positions. More to come.
 - ii. TRF Campus Dean – There was a robust candidate pool. The committee is beginning its work reviewing applications.
 - iii. FBM Roseau – The deadline was extended by two additional weeks. The search committee is now in progress.
- b. **Website RFP Update** – Chad gave an update on the work of the selection team for the college website redesign project. After multiple meetings with the selection team and an in-depth review of each proposal, the team ranked Object as the chosen vendor. Chad is finalizing the contract and will begin work as soon as possible. The website is the capstone of the overall college rebranding project.

5. Individual Updates (limited to two minutes)

- a. **Shannon Jesme** – Shannon is requesting to waive the fee for the Minnesota Arts Council for rental of the art gallery through December 2020. There is little traffic through there and there are no events scheduled this fall. Approved. This will be revisited for spring semester.
- b. **Lars Dyrud** - \$213,000 in scholarships will be awarded for fall semester. This is one of the highest amounts in Foundation history. This includes the Workforce Development grants and the Ag scholarships. There is \$160,000 in scholarships planned for the spring. Funds



will be distributed by the end of the week. Currently not planning a fall scholarship ceremony. They are looking at a spring event for both fall and spring scholarship recipients.

- c. Mary Fontes
- d. Chad Sperling
- e. Jodi Stauss-Stassen
- f. Mike Curfman
- g. Cutis Zoller
- h. **Jim Retka** – Amanda Lara has accepted head softball coach position. She has been the assistant softball coach for two years. She is working with athletes this fall. **ACTION:** Jim will send out an announcement later this week to the college community.
- i. Brian Huschle

6. Adjournment 10:45 a.m.

