

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Thursday, October 15, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: **Zoom**

MINUTES

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

Absent: Curtis Zoller

1. President's Report

- a. **Leadership Council Update** – There has been discussion regarding colleges possibly not having spring break this year due to the risks of students traveling and bringing COVID back to campuses. It has been determined that decision will be left to each individual institution. Dr. Bona shared that he requested input from faculty. Faculty have recommended that we have spring break as scheduled. **ACTION:** Closer to the date, Dr. Bona will send an email communication to students to remain vigilant in practicing social distancing, wearing masks, and practicing good hand hygiene.

2. Action Items

- a. **Graduation Regalia Decision** – Mary reported that students have been surveyed regarding desired regalia for graduation. It was determined that Academic Excellence will receive a medallion. Those with Highest Honors will receive a stole and a medallion. Approved.
- b. **2020P Admissions Procedure** – Mary shared changes to the admissions procedure. These changes are required due to a system office change. Students who do not have any intent on receiving a degree will not be coded as an undeclared student. This section will be left blank. Approved. This change to the procedure does not require Shared Governance Council review. **ACTION:** Mary will update the policy on the website.
- c. **Open Educational Resources, Z Degree Grant Proposal** – Brian shared that there is a grant opportunity to continue work on open educational resources from Minnesota State. The grant is for up to \$25,000 for ongoing support. President's Council agreed that this was an important initiative. Approved. **ACTION:** Brian will complete the application and submit the proposal.

3. Discussion Items

- a. **Winter Athletics** – The presidents of Minnesota State colleges who offer athletics have been meeting to determine if basketball, wrestling, baseball, and softball will be offered in fall/spring. The decision needs to be made by November 16th for basketball and wrestling. Softball and baseball can be made at a later date. Dr. Bona requested input from the President's Council. **ACTIONS:** Dennis will prepare a draft rationale email for President's Council to review. Julie will schedule special meeting prior to November 16 to discuss the final decision.
- b. **Class Capacities Discussion** – Dr. Bona and Brian have been meeting with a subgroup of Shared Governance Council to discuss a proposal. The faculty will respond during the next



meeting with their counter proposal. Dr. Bona is hoping for agreement in this process to help improve the college's financial situation.

- c. **Faculty Resignation/Posting** – Brian shared that Erin Almlie (EGF chemistry instruction) has resigned. She plans to leave at the end of fall semester. Jeff Bell will become division chair for the rest of the year. Brian is planning to hire an adjunct instructor for spring semester.

4. Informational Items

- a. **Personnel Update** – Mike gave an update on the following positions:
 - i. President – Chancellor Malhotra conducted listening sessions for employees and community members. They are working to establish the search committee.
 - ii. FBM Instructor position (Roseau area) has been extended for two weeks.
 - iii. Accounting Senior position closes on October 26th.
 - iv. TRF Campus Dean – The three finalists will be on campus and employees can participate in open forums.
 - v. GMW position closed on Monday. The search committee work is in progress.
- b. **HR Update** – The system office is looking at how we manage emergency closure when employees are teleworking. More to come.
- c. **Professional Development Faculty Survey Results** - Brian is starting to pull together an agenda. Please send any ideas to Brian.
- d. **Art Gallery Update** - Shannon provided an update on the recent activities in the art gallery on the TRF campus. She requested approval to have the MN Arts Council host an open house on Saturday, October 24th. The maximum attendance will be less than 25. All COVID protocols will be enforced. Shannon will work with Lars to host the event. Approved.

5. Individual Updates (limited to two minutes)

- a. Mary Fontes – Enrollment - FYE 843, -12%. FBM credits are still being entered.
- b. Cutis Zoller
- c. Jim Retka
- d. Shannon Jesme
- e. Lars Dyrud
- f. Chad Sperling
- g. Jodi Stauss-Stassen
- h. Mike Curfman

6. Adjournment 11:45 p.m.

