

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: **Zoom**

MINUTES

Present: Shannon Jesme, Brian Huschle, Mike Curfman, Chad Sperling, Lars Dyrud, Jodi Stauss, Mary Fontes, Shamani Shikwambi, Curtis Zoller, and Julie Fenning (Recorder).

1. President's Report

- a. **COVID-19 Update** - Current cases are down in both communities. All health program students have been given the opportunity to receive vaccines. Most are choosing not to get the vaccine. It is currently not required by our health partners.
- b. **Transition Planning Update** – Shannon did not have an official update at this time. This item will be discussed at the next President's Council meeting.
- c. **Facilities Use - External Entities on Campus** – There are entities that use our facilities (community theater, Math Counts, Spelling Bee, Young Authors Conference). We have penciled these activities in, pending the current COVID situation. These activities are coming up soon and a decision needs to be made. **ACTION:** It was determined that the use of facilities by external organizations will not be allowed through spring semester. A decision will be made in April regarding summer activities. Note: We are waiting for more guidance from the system office regarding holding commencement.
- d. **Staffing Levels for Spring Semester** – **ACTION:** It was determined that staffing on campuses will continue at the current level through February, or until the Peace Time Emergency order is lifted.

2. Action Items

- a. **HLC 15-30 second video for 125th Anniversary** – The HLC has invited all institutions to submit a short video or picture showcasing the last year's activities at their colleges. **ACTION:** It was determined that Chad Sperling will create a branded picture to submit on behalf of Northland.
- b. **Stimulus Funding** – Shannon shared that Northland will be receiving \$3,053,777 in the second round of stimulus funds. There are parameters on how these funds must be spent. She shared a handout with the President's Council with the criteria for expenses. **ACTION:** Shannon will be working with the system office and other Minnesota State institutions to apply these funds appropriately.
- c. **On-line Budget Request Process** – The on-line budget request process is now open. Shannon requested that all administrators encourage their direct reports and faculty to submit requests. It is possible that some requests may qualify for the stimulus funds.
- d. **Power Bi** – Shannon shared that EMP11 will be eliminated on Feb 1st at noon. Employees who have been using EMP11 need to capture their existing queries to replicate in the new system. Employees need to request access to Power Bi by contacting the system office help desk. The Power Bi app is available to all users through the 365 portal. Please note: Employees need to request downloading and printing rights from Stacey Hron.



3. Discussion Items

- a. **Athletic Pandemic Team** – The athletic pandemic team has been meeting to ensure compliance with COVID restrictions. Jodi brought forward a request from the baseball and softball coaches that they would like to increase their practices to three times a week. Currently they have been approved to practice twice a week. **ACTION:** It was determined that practices will be allowed twice a week as recommended by the pandemic team. This will be discussed at the athletic pandemic team with coaches on Friday. Currently there is no push from schools to begin Vex robotics activities; however, they are eager to start when the COVID situation allows.

4. Informational Items

- a. Personnel Update – No updates at this time.

5. Individual Updates (limited to two minutes)

- a. **Brian Huschle** – The Innovations grant with ABE is being submitted.
- b. **Curtis Zoller** – Curtis shared that he has begun conversations with White Earth Community College on possible collaborations with CBE. More to come as discussions continue.
- c. **Lars Dyrud** – Spring scholarships have been finalized. The Foundation is looking at possibly doing one scholarship round versus two, as there is a tight turn around for financial aid. Student housing interest for the fall is up. Currently, there are 40 in housing right now.
- d. **Mary Fontes** – Enrollment 12% down with 773 FYE this year and 877 FYE last year at this time. The end of year adjusted is -12% with 1734 FYE this year, and 1968 FYE last year. Brian is expecting an additional 15-17 FYE from FBM. Mary provided an update on Distance Minnesota. The Ask Us contract is being discussed whether to continue the services. It is a \$650,000 annual contract. The Distance Minnesota leadership team is working with Leadership Council to make a decision. Mary is working on athletic assignments for this year. She announced that there were only 12 students dropped on the final RCFN list.
- e. **Chad Sperling** – Chad shared that they are wrapping up the design phase and finalizing the design documents that will be given to the developers in Phase 3 of the project. Chad is currently drafting the RFP for Phase 3. He is working with the admissions team on developing virtual college fairs. There will be four over the next couple weeks. Chad is also working with Jason Pangiarella and students on testimonial ads.
- f. Jodi Stauss-Stassen – No additional updates.
- g. Mike Curfman – No update given.
- h. Shamani Shikwambi – Orientation is going well.

6. Adjournment 10:39 a.m.

