

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Friday, February 19, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: **Zoom**

MINUTES

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

1. President's Report

- a. **Student Consults Scheduled for March 2nd.** Shannon will be sharing information about technology fees and CRRSAA funds during these consultations.
- b. **CRRSAA** – Shannon is waiting for additional guidance from the system office. She has been discussing ideas for the funds with other Minnesota State institutions. Other schools are giving part of the student funds to Pell eligible students immediately. They are also waiting for additional guidance regarding non-Pell students. For Northland, Shannon is looking at lost revenue in tuition, Foundation receivables, kitchens, bookstores, and technology equipment. Funds could also be used to hire an employee to monitor COVID compliance on each campus. The pandemic team will discuss at their next meeting.
- c. **Graduation** – Most Minnesota State colleges have decided to conduct a virtual ceremony this year. It was determined that Northland will hold a virtual ceremony this year. Once again, there will be one ceremony for the college; graduation committees will work together. **Approved.**
- d. **Transition Planning** – Shannon is recommending to President's Council that Mary's position be posted as an interim position July 1 – December 31st. This will allow the new president an opportunity to review the current position and participate in the search. **Approved.** This position will maintain the athletic administration piece and oversee the athletic coordinator position. The athletic coordinator position will continue to be paid with MSCF credits. **Approved.**
- e. **COVID Survey Update** – President's Council met with the Institutional Review Board faculty about developing a survey regarding best practices during the pandemic. **ACTION:** Julie will schedule a meeting with Shannon, Jodi, Curtis, Shamani, Brian, Stacey Hron, Tim Gabor, Justin Berry, and Dorinda Sorvig.
- f. **Growth Opportunities Work Group Update** – Shannon and Brian have been working with faculty leadership to develop this work group. Team members include Shannon, Brian, Mary Amundson, and Stephen Nelson. Will add more members (division chairs) as they begin work.

2. Action Items

- a. **Math and Science Tutor Vacancy** – Brian requested approval to post for the vacant position. **Approved.**
- b. **PAET Suspension** – President Council has approved suspension of this program.



3. Discussion Items

- a. **Dean of Student Affairs and Athletic Coordinator Discussion** – This item was covered above in Transition Planning.

4. Informational Items

- a. **KTRF Radio Segments Update** – Chad shared the new process for the KTRF radio show. He shared a handout with the roster and schedule of topics. Currently, the segment is August through the end of May. It was recommended to keep the schedule as is. Chad suggested to advertise Northland before and after each segment. **Approved.**
- b. **COVID Update** – The peacetime emergency has been extended to March 15th. Pennington county is leading the state in number of cases. COVID compliance is slipping on both campuses with students and employees. It was determined that off-campus activities of clubs/athletics events will not be permitted. Academic-related events will be determined on a case-by-case basis with consultation with the Pandemic Team. Athletic testing has been running smoothly with Sanford. Grand Forks and Polk county rates are decreasing. MDH is encouraging testing of students as they return from spring break. The pandemic team is discussing testing at this time.
- c. **Personnel Update** – Curfman
 - i. **Update** – The structure of the position John Beck had requested has changed. It will be a contract hire, and not an employee hire through Northland. **ACTION:** Julie will revise minutes from last meeting. Currently working on hiring the GMW and the Early Childhood, English, and Construction Electricity instructors.
 - ii. Minnesota has launched a new vaccine website. Designed to sign up for the vaccine when it becomes available. Coming out soon to all employees.
- d. **FAA Grant Update** – Curtis was having internet issues, did not provide update.
- e. **WETCC CBE Project Update** – Curtis was having internet issues, did not provide update.

5. Individual Updates (limited to two minutes)

- a. Curtis Zoller – No additional update.
- b. **Lars Dyrud** – Lars provided an update on student housing and scholarships. Pennington county is utilizing a housing unit for COVID positive cases for the Violence Intervention Program. One student has been relocated to his own unit. There is a good number (20-30) of Textron and Digi-Key interns scheduled for housing over the summer. There are two new endowments Northrisk Partners and the Ostby Endowment. The GiveCampus contract is up. Lars reported that he is currently not breaking even with the reduction in fundraising activities. The three-year contract is \$16,500, with fundraising bringing in \$16,000. Lars is looking into other options, possibly using the Northland website.
- c. **Mary Fontes** – Mary will create a March calendar for student services work schedule. **Approved.** Enrollment – 1748 end of year adjusted, down 11%. Headcount down 9.2%.
- d. **Chad Sperling** – The website project Phase 2 is complete. Chad is working on the RFP for Phase 3. Chad shared that ten radio ads were produced by students and they sound great. They will be played through March on IHeart radio. Marketing and recruiting are working on scheduling information sessions for students and parents with Northland faculty.
- e. Jodi Stauss – No additional update.
- f. Mike Curfman – No additional update.
- g. Shamani Shikwambi – Attended Advance TRF meeting. They are planning a March career fair. More to come.
- h. Brian Huschle – No additional update.

6. Adjournment 11:56

