

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: **Zoom**

MINUTES

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

1. President's Report

- a. **Leadership Council Update** – The focus of the Leadership Council meeting was the budget. There was also discussion on the various chargebacks to campuses for shared services.
- b. **Transition Planning** – Shannon has communicated to SGC that the Dean of Student Affairs position will be filled with an interim so that the next president can have input in the position and the hiring.
- c. **Tuition Consult Process Update** – Met with students regarding CRRSAA funding. Shannon is expecting they will have their letter to the system office this week. It was agreed to give grants to Pell eligible students and students with an EFC of \$15,000 or less. These students will receive \$525.15 which is equal to three credits. **ACTION:** Julie will schedule the standard tuition and fee consults once more information is known regarding a tuition increase, etc.

2. Action Items

- a. **22-23 Academic Calendar** – Jodi shared the first draft of the 2022-2023 Academic Calendar. The SGC will review and finalize at their next meeting. **Approved.**

3. Discussion Items

- a. **FAA Grant Submission Update** – Curtis shared details about a grant he would like Northland to participate in with Lake Superior College. The amount of the grant is between \$250,000 - \$350,000. Lake Superior would be the fiscal agent. Curtis is working on the final narrative. The grant will help with recruitment efforts and curriculum. **Approved.**
- b. **WETCC CBE Project Update** – Curtis is looking at developing a partnership with WETCC on an HVAC CBE program. He is working with the EGF program faculty to help WETCC get the program started. The goal is to start in Mahnomen and share with other tribes across the state.
- c. **Marvin Windows** – The Marvin Foundation has committed \$500,000 of supplies/equipment/donation to the college to establish a secondary site in Warroad, beginning with Mechatronics CBE program on location. Curtis is still working through the details and the HLC requirements for the program. Marvin has an employee that will be hired as the faculty. This program will go through AASC this semester.
- d. **CRRSAA Funds** – Northland's will receive \$3.2 million. All student funds will be spent in this fiscal year FY22. The division chairs and President's Council will prioritize CRRSAA fund requests. The goal is to build up the gen fund with revenue loss; help auxiliary programs such as bookstore, kitchens; and supplement fees including technology, student life, and parking. IT has created a proposal to update the technology infrastructure on both campuses. We need to create a work group to look at technology and classroom needs of



faculty. Proposed members include Jodi, Brian, Stacey Hron, Dawn Eickman, and Caleb Curfman.

4. Informational Items

- a. **COVID-19 Update** – Case numbers are high in Pennington County. There is more student and staff activity on the COVID email recently. They athletic teams are working through the COVID protocols. Softball has added an additional practice beginning next week. They are hoping that nice weather will move them outside. COVID fatigue is present on all locations. Looking at utilizing existing employees to help monitor campus entrances and gathering spaces. Pandemic team is not recommending testing after spring break due to the low turn out expected for testing events. The athletic pandemic team is working on the athletic pandemic plan. **ACTION:** Mary will bring to President's Council for approval once complete.
- b. **Personnel Update** – The presidential finalists open forums are scheduled for March 22 and 23. Finalists will be announced Thursday, March 18th. Next Monday starts the trial in the death of George Floyd. The system office is working on communication to all employees/students from the chancellor.
- c. **TRIO Conversation** – There has been conversation regarding a TRIO agreement with Crookston, BSU, and White Earth. **ACTION:** Mary, Brian, Shannon will meet to ensure we do not compete with existing TRIO relationship with UND.
- d. **Academic Coordinator/Support Position** – Curtis is working on a draft position description and will bring to the next President's Council meeting.
- e. **NISOD Conference** – This year NISOD is offering an institutional rate for \$2700. This would open the conference up to all employees. Faculty coordinators are asking for assistance in covering this expense. Shannon will look into using CRRSAA funds. Might be able to code to Perkins as well. **Approved.**
- f. **Grassroots Advocacy** – This initiative is communication from the system office to local legislators. Julie will be the contact for the college through June. More information to come.
- g. **Graduation Communication** – It was determined that Northland will have a virtual commencement ceremony this year. **ACTION:** Shannon will send an email to all employees and students on March 15th regarding a virtual commencement. **ACTION:** Chad will publish something on the website. Graduation will be Thursday, May 13th, at 7:00 p.m.

5. Individual Updates (limited to two minutes)

- a. **Shamani Shikwambi** – Shamani encouraged everyone to check out the new exhibit "Birds" in the TRF art gallery. Shamani will send an invitation to the college community.
- b. Brian Huschle – No additional update.
- c. Curtis Zoller – No additional update.
- d. **Lars Dyrud** – Lars is working on updating policies regarding employees living in student housing.
- e. **Mary Fontes** – Advising appointments are increasing as students are getting ready for fall registration. ACT contract has been solidified. Working on Distance MN projects for online PSEO and College in the High School. Rolling out eCommunications plan. Northland has entered into an agreement with MN State with Dave Dumbeck as a result of the PSEO project and an Equity and Inclusion project. Mary is a grandma! Congratulations!
- f. **Chad Sperling** – Chad has amped up advertising to coincide with different recruiting efforts. Using virtual recruiting when working with different faculty groups. The RFP has been sent to the business office for final review. Should be moving forward shortly. KTRF is asking to do a newspaper article regarding the criminal justice simulator. More to come.
- g. Jodi Stauss-Stassen – No additional update.
- h. Mike Curfman – No additional update.

6. Adjournment 10:49 a.m.

