October 22-23 IFO Board Meeting Notes

White House Executive Order on Race and Sex Stereotyping – IFO is opposed and issued a statement (on IFO website)

Bonding Bill update – 1.8 billion with 90 million for MinnState. Email was sent to all faculty giving some details.

Discussion on multiyear decline in enrollment. Faculty need to help address continuing enrollment declines at the four-year institutions. We lost over 100 faculty lines in the last two years. Brent Jeffers is going to have a discussion with the chancellor about also getting campus presidents involved (e.g. make enrollment part of evaluation process).

Equity by Design update was given. BSU has done some Equity by Design work over the last couple years and detailed information about Equity by Design can be found at this MinnState site: https://www.minnstate.edu/system/equity/Equity%20by%20Design.html#:~:text=Equity%20by%20Design%20is%20a,to%20institutional%20equity-minded%20practices.&text=Prepares%20institutions%20to%20be%20student,Prioritizes%20equity%20in%20academic%20outcomes.

Equity by Design is in the Equity and Diversity Strategic Plan and Rucha Ambikar is a new member of CPD and will be working toward increasing diversity and equity within the curriculum and pedagogy across the university. If you are interested in participating in Equity by Design, please contact Michael Murray.

Discussion of all campuses having some sort of diversity course graduation requirement. There has been some discussion at BSU of an Indigenous course requirement and, perhaps, there is synergy between the two. Metropolitan State has such a requirement: https://www.metrostate.edu/academics/requirements/rigr/about-rigr

Idea is to have this requirement above and beyond Area 7, but courses could double-count.
Delegate Assembly update – to recap, the spring 2020 Delegate Assembly was postponed until fall and then postponed again. Inquiries went out to venders to get proposals to run a virtual DA in spring 2021. Much discussion followed including whether it is even feasible to go through about 100 resolutions virtually. Further vender information will be gathered and presented at the December Board meeting for a final decision.

Resources for stressed out faculty: MSU-Moorhead shared results from a local survey they did of their faculty regarding COVID-related stresses (e.g. additional work associated with online courses, being asked to do assessment, training, etc.), and many of the same themes are popping up on all campuses. Resources available through MMB, including the Employee Assistance Program (which has a new vendor) were discussed & are available on the IFO website.