

Meet and Confer

Minutes of August 22, 2001

Present: BSUFA – Alexander, Brown, Henry, Jordan, Witt
Administration – Amble, Baer, Larkin, Quistgaard

Meeting began at 3:36 pm in Deputy 317.

Alexander, Amble, and Larkin were welcomed to their first meet and confer. Larkin's attire was noted. He was not dressed in the same fashion as the other administration team members. Larkin was sporting an attractive and comfortable (according to him) shirt with a Jamaica logo.

Enrollment update:

Quistgaard reported that the entering class is the largest in history. There are about 710, which is a 22% increase. The total student body will be about 4900, the highest since 1992. Baer reported that the residence halls have 1492 residents, which is 91% occupancy. Linden Hall will be totally utilized for the first time in ten years. Because of prior arrangements for some students to have double rooms as singles, the 91% is not reflective of the occupancy level. Quistgaard noted that BSU must continue to increase more than the other state universities to enable us to get more money because of the allocation formula. Transfers and almost even and retention is at 74.9%. There are more students who are "traditional".

Budget/allocation update:

Amble reported on the budget figures, he distributed a written income/expense statement. BSU had to go into reserves to pay the bills again last month. Questions concerning CRI's being self-supporting were asked. Amble will find out the answer and report back. The CEL refund policy was addressed. Amble will find out what the policy is and report back. There were two major issues raised: faculty getting paid and the student dropping the class and not paying and the student paying then dropping having paid for the course and faculty not getting paid. The budget committee will be looking at CEL tuition. The budget committee was directly responsible for BSU getting additional monies. Larkin said the budget committee was to be complimented for their excellent work. WELL DONE, BUDGET COMMITTEE!

Larkin is a member of the Technical Advisory Committee, which is a MnSCU committee responsible for allocation and funding.

Facilities update:

Baer reported construction on the American Indian Center will begin in the spring. Baer reported that he is aware of parking problems associated with the construction of the center, as well as the addition cars that will be on campus because of the center and the current parking spaces the center will occupy. Parking for the entire campus was then discussed. Baer reported that he has met with the parking committee and he will continue to look at the parking problems and with the committee will develop long range plans and propose solutions. The BSUFA again raised the issue of parking in the lot west of Decker. Amble will find out the policy on parking in Decker and report back. Brown and Jordan pointed out that one possible solution would be to have long term parking rows in Bangsberg and the rec center lots and to have no overnight parking in Decker. Baer also reported on co-location. He said that under the new chancellor co-location is being driven by academic concerns. The BSUFA members were very pleased to hear that and said so, loudly. Phase I construction will begin in the spring of 2002. He has met with the faculty from the BSU areas that will be involved in the co-location and has received their input. Plans are now in the pre-design stage for phase II. The office of the chancellor (recently change from the system office) has co-location as a high priority. On September 10 several members of the MN senate and the chancellors office will be on campus for a legislative visit in regard to co-location.

Searches update:

When and if faculty shifts occur because of co-location memos will be sent to the BSUFA informing them of the shift. Co-location is seen as a potential growth area and should result in new faculty hires.

Larkin reported that faculty positions were being filled daily. He will get Brown a current new hires list including addresses via electronic media in the near future. Larkin did provide BSUFA with the names of the new hires as of September 22, 2001, most of the names included address, department, and type of position.

The new probationary hires are:

Matthew Miller, physics; Keith Marek, chemistry; Debbie Guelda, biology; Thomas Murphy, history; Karen Branden, sociology; Cheryl Byers, social work; Lauren Cobb, English; Todd Frauenholtz, mathematics; Mark Lawence, geography; Sally Wiltse, PEHS; Tom Serratore, hockey; Aaron Vlcko, football; Elaine Hoffman, industrial technology; Barbara Bridges, education (Metro); and Jim Mastro, education.

The new fixed term hires are:

Jeff Guiot, basketball; Jason Lesteberg, hockey; Bertrum Gilling, hockey; Barbara Ranson, mathematics; Marcella Melby, mathematics, Michelle Dodds, mathematics, Kari Bowman, CSI; business administration; and Craig Stevens, basketball.

Other hires:

Jeff Mitchell, soccer; Shawn Nagel, football; Keith Merrick; Carol Richards; Valica Boudry; Jennifer Swanson; and Terry Halverson.

EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE NEW FACULTY RECEPTION DURING START UP.

Quistgaard also reported that the search for a new academic vice president and a new administrative vice president have begun, with requests for job descriptions from other institutions like our both in and out of state. Search committees will be formed for each position following the guidelines established for creating such committees.

Salary grid:

Larkin provided Brown with the salary grid requested. Brown asked Larkin if the grid would be followed. Larkin replied that it would be followed. Henry observed that it had been intended as a floor, but was being used as a ceiling. The BSUFA would like to see the original intention followed. Quistgaard said that if we can document and justify going above the floor of the salary grid he would.

Laptop:

BSUFA would like to thank the administration for having lap top training sessions scheduled during faculty work days and requested that even more sessions be scheduled even one on ones. Quistgaard said that would be done. Amble will get a cost comparison of the platforms and sent that to Brown.

AFSCME and MAPE:

BSUFA requested information on exactly what BSUFA members can and can not do during a strike by AFSCME and MAPE. Quistgaard said BSU would be open and continuing to offer quality education was a primary goal. He is working on a plan and will inform all the effected people of the particulars of that plan and what they can and CAN NOT do. He expressed the hope that the strike would not be necessary and Larkin added that he hoped the people would get fair compensation without striking. Everyone agreed with Larkin.

Public service reporting for State university faculty:

Brown reported that the TEC colleges are using an encoding system for their public service. He suggested that BSU use the same code for all the public service we do and receive more allocation fund money. Amble will look into this.

Chancellor's work plan:

Brown reported that the work plan the chancellor's office is proposing has potential abuse and problems. It appears to have additional layers of information requests – information that is already being collected and reported in other forms. Quistgaard replied that there had been no specific requests from the office of the chancellor at this time. If such requests are made they will be brought to meet and confer.

Cost centers budgets:

BSUFA is requesting budgets for each cost center. Amble will check if such budgets are available and send it to Brown in electronic format if possible.

AcademicTechnology Center:

Brown asked if there had been a name change. Larkin will investigate and report back.

Mediation/Conflict resolution.

Both BSUFA and the BSU administration are interested in investigation the possibility of developing mediation for BSU. A fact finding trip to St. Cloud during the fall term will be schedule. Cook, Larkin, Jordan, and Witt will attend. Larkin will drive and Jordan will schedule the trip.

Start up:

Brown will be involved in the teaching evaluation workshop.

Jim Pehler, IFO president, will be on campus September 30 and 31.

Quistgaard will be personing the MnSCU booth at the State Fair on September 30 and 31. Henry raised the question of appropriate use of the president's time and energy. The decision is not local.

Russ Stanton from the IFO office could not be on campus during start up but he will be here for a retirement workshop on September 26. All faculty are encouraged to attend.

Division I hockey:

BSUF made a third request for an expense sheet report for D1 hockey. Baer responded that he had given the figures to BSUFA. Brown replied that it was neither complete nor comprehensive enough. Baer said it was all he had. After this had been stated by each side several times, it was decided that Baer would bring a written report to the next meet and confer.

Baer also reported that a strategic plan in regard to all athletics is due in the spring of 2002. They will hire a facilitator to help with the plan. Quistgaard said that they are treating this like any other five-year review required to all departments. They are being asked to identify who they are and where they are going. They are looking for base line data.

Money walk:

COMPLEMENTS TO THE GROUNDS AND MAINTENANCE CREWS! The campus is looking very nice. Singled out for comment are the new benches and the flowers and bricks outside Decker Hall. The hard work by all the members of these crews shows and we appreciate it. It is nice to work in an attractive atmosphere.

Other issues:

Assessment directors from the colleges:

The deans asked the department chairs for volunteers. There were very few reported. Brown said that he had information from several departments that the members had not been asked. Somehow the process has not worked well. It was suggested that a better and more appropriate way to handle such requests would be via the faculty senate or direct e-mail to the faculty. Another "search" will be made by Larkin using a different method.

NCA:

Quistgaard said that he is concerned about the up coming NCA report. BSU has a report due at the conclusion of this academic year. The planning committee is working on the report. How to assess liberal education accurately is always a concern. This is a large issue for the upcoming year. Planning must be a collaborative process.

Meeting concluded at 5:37.

Respectfully submitted,

Johannas Jordan, secretary pro tem (actually just taking her turn)