

January 17, 2002  
Special Session Meet & Confer  
Single Item Agenda: Guiding Principles

Present

Carl Baer, Dave Larkin, Barb Schuldt, Richard Gendreau, Rod Henry, Rod Witt, Jauneth Skinner, Jon Quistgaard, Chris Brown

Meeting was called to order, by Quistgaard. He asked Baer to report on happenings down state, with the lobbyists and the governor's new budget.

Baer: this year is unusual. Instead of being just a bonding year, it is a budgeting, bonding, and redistricting year. According to MnSCU, \$135 million in cuts is higher education's piece of the pie. There is some difference of opinion on how to solve the current budget crisis. The Chancellor charged us to set up an outline of how we would handle certain scenarios on our campus.

Discussion followed.

Brown asked Baer to please comment on where BSU sits in relation to funding for the Center for Advanced Technologies, the remodel of Bridgman Hall for the nursing program, and the proposal to remodel the hockey arena.

Baer: BSU informed our legislators repeatedly that our priority is to receive funding for the Center for Advanced Technologies, and the remodel of Bridgman Hall for the nursing program. NWTC will be retaining its current building and will offer some courses at the BSU facility.

Questions were raised regarding Doug Fuller's position on bonding for the hockey arena in light of a recent article in the Bemidji Pioneer. Baer indicated Fuller was operating on his own. The administration supports the bonding request for planning money on the "co-location project."

A lively discussion followed.

Brown: The faculty would like to formally say "Thank-you!" for keeping our interests in front of the legislators and particularly the work on the co-location issue. Chris commended them on their persistence and success. Kudos!

Larkin presented the most recent Recommendation for Guiding Principles, based on a hasty revision completed minutes before the Special Session Meet & Confer meeting. He indicated it was still a working document that could be amended.

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Recommendation for Guiding Principles, 17 January 2002

### Programs of Study

- Insure academic integrity and quality student services.
- Maintain strong programs and learning experiences for students, to include restructuring other programs as necessary
- Provide opportunities for students to complete programs of study in a timely manner.

### Human Resources

- Provide for an appropriate number of faculty and staff to ensure that programs are consistently delivered in a high quality manner together with the necessary support services.
- Provide opportunities that support professional evaluation and development.

### Safety and health

- Promote a healthy, safe campus environment.
- Maintain our physical assets.

### Student Recruitment, Retention and Success

- Promote multicultural and international learning programs.
- Increase recruitment and retention efforts for enrollment purposes.
- Enhance marketing strategies including university web site improvement.
- Increase enrollment efforts in distance education programs.
- Provide a well-balanced mix of extracurricular and academic experiences to foster student growth and development.

### Fiscal Resource Management

- Develop strategies for improving system efficiencies, e.g., energy, supplies, communications, travel, acquisitions, outside contracts, etc.
- Keep tuition competitive and affordable.
- Review non-contractual equipment and travel budgets for possible reduction.

### External Relations

- Aggressively promote external relationships and partnerships with groups, clients, organizations, and individuals outside the campus community
- Stimulate fundraising activities university wide.

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Brown: The Senate reasserts its position, which is an affirmation of its earlier position with regard to Guiding Principles. He presented the administration with the BSU Faculty Association's Reaffirmed Guiding Principles and indicated the faculty association would respond to the executive committee's recommendations within the contractually required period. Discussion followed concerning timeliness. The administration wanted to amend the executive committees recommendations to accommodate the suggestions from the other bargaining units. Further discussion. Brown called a caucus.

When the meeting reconvened, the administration presented a revised set of recommendations. The administration was asked if the Recommendation for Guiding Principles would be rewritten to include the faculty's recommendations. The answer was no. A brief, tense discussion followed. The administration still refused to look at or add any of the BSUFA recommendations, claiming they were too specific.

A heated discussion followed, which was summed up by Gendreau: We are recommending this now. This is what the faculty wants us to bring to this meeting. We feel like you are ignoring us. The other unions and the Student Senate's input were included in this document. Why weren't ours?

Brown queried the administration about the contemplation of retrenchment. The administration indicated emphatically they were not contemplating retrenchment.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jauneth Skinner, BSUFA Secretary