

BSUFA Meet and Confer Notes
8 February 2006

BSUFA Members present: Dave Larkin, Chris Brown, Deb Peterson, Rose Weaver, Derek Webb, Carol Milowski, Secretary
BSU Administrative members present: Jon Quistgaard, Joann Fredrickson and Bill Maki

Meet and Confer began at 4:00 with a discussion of Agenda Item I, **Positions Update**. Provost Fredrickson indicated the search committee for the Vice-President of Student Development and Enrollment is looking at applications and a search committee has been formed for the Director of Human Resources, but no ads have yet been placed. The full report is in Addendum I to the print copy.

Bill Maki, Vice President for Finance and Administration, made an extended presentation on Agenda Items II & III, the **fiscal impact of enrollment decline, tuition restraints, and the allocation model**. Overall, BSU enrollment is dropping, and the allocation model that rewards increases in enrollment magnifies the financial impact of the drop. BSU will experience a two million shortfall in the Fall of 2006, and the MNSCU Board narrowly approved our tuition request. Maki will sponsor a Budget Forum during the Spring Semester. The full presentation is Addendum II to the print copy.

Chris Brown introduced Agenda Item IV, **\$65.00 per credit for CEL courses**. Fredrickson said in discussion with Griggs it doesn't appear they can support this change; however, they might be able to support \$85.00 for on-line courses if they can charge a fee.

President Larkin addressed Agenda Item V, a **Common Academic Start Date**, indicating that all of the state universities are opposed to this. Fredrickson said this has not been officially determined, but she believes there will be a common start date for Fall, 2007. This occasioned some discussion. Fredrickson wants to use the calendar process; members of the IFO suggested starting simply by applying the calendar principles already agreed upon and seeing if this will work before something more elaborate is done.

President Quistgaard addressed Agenda Item VI, **the Scenario Planning Process**, by reminding the group that MNSCU Administrator Laura King would be addressing the group.

Carol Milowski introduced Agenda Item VII, **Seniority Lines in Technological Studies**. She informed the Administration that the Faculty Senate and the IFO Executive were unanimous in their support of Technological Studies request for one seniority line. Fredrickson said that in consultation with other departments—Education and Art History—they have established separate lines. The discussion indicated there was no agreement on this issue.

The status of the **Anthropology position** was Agenda Item VIII. The position is of concern to several departments, and there is on-going faculty concern about its placement. Fredrickson asked whether the planning for the position should start this year or next as Brew has another year of phased retirement. The IFO suggested planning start this year giving Departments plenty of time for input.

Presidents Larkin and Quistgaard addressed Agenda Item IX, **the Nepotism Policy**. Larkin was hopeful the policy was not being implemented by MNSCU; however, Quistgaard indicated the policy was in place, but BSU had used a “common sense” approach to its implementation such that difficulties had been avoided. He sees no reason to change in the future.

President Larkin indicated that there are **traffic concerns at the Campus Child Care Center**, Agenda Item X. People are stopping in the street and moving children through traffic. Maki said there is a sign indicating a drop-off area, but it is not very visible; he is also working with the City of Bemidji to create a larger drop-off area.

Deb Peterson asked for a report about **extended contracts for chairs and the use of reassigned time or extra duty days**, Agenda Item XI. She indicated there is inconsistent application of these assignments to chairs. Fredrickson indicated that is no intention to give less than the contract minimum.

President Larkin indicated he is forwarding the **Student Centeredness Report and Recommendation**, Agenda Item XII, to the faculty; Fredrickson said the report was on President Quistgaard’s desk.

President Larkin distributed a copy of the Senate motion calling for the **evaluation of administrators**, Agenda Item XIII. President Quistgaard reviewed the process he uses for evaluating the vice-presidents, but when asked by Larkin if the results could be made public, he answered “no.” Larkin said he thought the process could be a positive one for the administration, facilitating communication between the faculty and administration, particularly the Deans. Limited discussion followed; the Administration took this under advisement. The Senate Motion is Addendum III to the print copy.

Vice-President Maki distributed a **draft BSU policy for dropping students for nonpayment**, Agenda Item XIV, which mirrors the MNSCU policy. Students must pay within five business days or their classes will be cancelled for nonpayment unless they qualify for one of six exceptions, such as, late financial aid or hardship, *i.e.* illness, death in family, or natural disaster. The full policy is Addendum IV to the print copy.

Additional Agenda Items: Provost Fredrickson asked for two IFO representatives for an **additional Women’s Studies Committee** to address the question of the Women’s Center. The request surprised the Executive as a large committee is already being formed. There was mutual consensus to put MSUAASF members on the IFO group.

Derek Web spoke to the need for **grant support for faculty**; Fredrickson said she wants to support this activity but is looking for suggestions.

Deb Peterson raised the issue of **staffing in the CSNS Dean’s office** during the dean’s absence; Fredrickson will look into the issue.

Carol Milowski raised the issue of **national or regional recruitment versus international recruitment**. There seems to be a fair amount of effort being put into international recruitment, but not as much for national and regional efforts even though we have some very successful programs located out-of-state with students asking for more of the same. Fredrickson said she to trying to provide follow through and support and that she hopes this is not an either or proposition.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.