

BSUFA Meet and Confer
30 August 2006

Administration Members present: President Jon Quistgaard, Provost Joanne Fredrickson, and Vice-President Bill Maki.

IFO members present: President Elizabeth Dunn, Chris Brown, Kathleen Myer, Deb Peterson, Jauneth Skinner, Derek Webb, Rod Witt, and Carol Milowski, Recorder.

The Meet and Confer convened at 4:00 pm

In the temporary absence of Vice President Bill Maki, President Elizabeth Dunn introduced Agenda Item II, the **IPESL Update**. She indicated the criteria for selecting IPESL grants had been created and would be on the first Faculty Senate Agenda for approval. The Senate would then need to create a Committee to select the finalists. The IFO agreed to a joint announcement of the IPESL request for proposals by President Jon Quistgaard and President Elizabeth Dunn.

Provost Joann Fredrickson spoke to Agenda Item V, **Scenerio Planning and Tuesday, September 26**. Tuesday, September 26 is an in-service duty day for faculty and staff without classes. Fredrickson said the intent is to use the day to “check back with the campus on the process and progress” of the scenerio planning initiative. The scenerios will be shared with the campus, and from 9 -12; there will be directed small-group discussion and feedback. Fredrickson distributed a list of questions that would be used by the small groups (Addendum I to the print edition) and called for volunteers to facilitate the small groups.

There was considerable discussion about whether the day should focus on the Scenerios alone or should also include Budget and other planning issues. Fredrickson and some IFO members felt the day should focus on the Scenerios. There was no final resolution of this question. President Quistgaard said that he would be giving the IFO Executive a list of the standing committees in general (apart from the Scenerio Planning process) that he thinks are necessary to the campus, so we can begin a discussion of committees in general. Quistgaard’s announcement was unexpected and taken under advisement by the IFO.

Fredrickson said Article 19A, **Professional Improvement Grant money**, Agenda Item VI, has nearly doubled this year as part of the IFO contract settlement. However, the money is one-time only and you either “use it or lose it.” She does not want to have any money left over and suggested this be brought to the attention of the Faculty Senate. Dunn agreed.

Vice President Bill Maki, returned to Agenda Item I, **Pandemic Planning**. MNSCU is requiring that a plan be in place by September 15, as an addendum to the Emergency Plan for the campus. The plan is presently a series of “Academic Contingencies Should the University Close.” For example, if the university closes before the eighth week of the semester that semester will be cancelled, no grades issues, and tuition credit given for payment in a future semester, but if the university closes after the 12th week of the semester, the semester will be declared ended, grades will be issued,

and no tuition will be credited. (See Addendum II to the print edition) In discussion, Maki said he was unsure how we could close the university and continue to pay faculty and staff. He also said the university will have a number of students, International and other, who cannot simply be sent home, and will need to stay in the dorms. The Pandemic Plan will be given to the Faculty Senate for comment.

Maki also returned to Agenda Item III, **Facilities Update**. He reported that Bridgeman Hall is “almost finished” a semester ahead of schedule, and faculty and staff are moving into the building. Dunn asked about the high school property. Quistgaard said the School Board is “just completing their end,” and he was “hopeful” BSU would have the property “in a few months” and then BSU will take the buildings down.

Maki introduced Agenda Item VII, **the Budget** along with Agenda Item IV, **Enrollment**. Enrollment is “stable” with last Fall. First Year enrollment is “even”; transfer enrollment is “down”; overall credit generation is “even to down.” Maki says the 15% assessment from summer school will be taken as the MNSCU technical assessment has increased the budget pressure.

Quistgaard reported under Agenda Item VIII, that the **Alumni Director** will now report to the Executive Director of University Advancement rather than to him.

Derek Webb addressed **Computer concerns**, Agenda Item IX, asking about the three year cycle for computer replacement. Quistgaard indicated they “hope to stay within the three-to-four year” replacement cycle, but this may depend on the overall budget. Fredrickson said that laptop computers for new faculty are available out of the pool of traded laptops. Webb indicated that e-mail was “vanishing” from some faculty accounts; the spam function did not seem to be working. The Administration will look into this.

Deb Peterson asked whether or not the Administration would share the results of the **Dean’s Evaluations** with the faculty, Agenda Item X. Fredrickson said she would not. Dunn asked if the evaluation was “useful.” Fredrickson said it was “plus and minus” and “needed to be put in context.” When asked if she would do it again, Fredrickson said she would “like to find some other means.”

Quistgaard referred to a **Service Learning Requirement**, Agenda Item XI, he hopes is “evolving on campus.” At the moment, it is a student lead initiative he does “not intend to formalize.” Quistgaard handed out a copy of a memo from Berne Christiansen, Academic Affairs Chair for the Student Senate. (See Addendum III to the print edition.)

There was general discussion of **Project Lead the Way**, Agenda Item XII, a curriculum high schools purchase to “advance students and faculty” according to Fredrickson.

Fredrickson proposed a **new T/Th block schedule**, Agenda Item XIII. The day would have starting times at 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 1:30, and 3:00. The proposal was taken under advisement.

The final Agenda Item XIV, was the **positions update** by Fredrickson. The number of failed searches across campus was a concern. (See Addendum IV to the print edition.)

Under additions to the agenda, Fredrickson said that the **Interim Dean in COPS** would be eligible to apply for the permanent position, and that the **AA degree with Alexandria Community College** was in place. Quistgaard also called attention to

changes in the **nursing program at the Technical College** such that students no longer had to go to Northland to complete a two-year RN.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.