

BSUFA Meet and Confer Notes
27 Jan 2010
4:30 pm

PresentL Quistgaard, Erickson, Erwin, Brown, Cutler, Smith, Erwin, Leif, Webb, Marek

Opening queries

Brown: Are you considering retrenchment?

Quistgaard: Not at this time.

Brown: Are any faculty currently under investigation?

Erickson: No

Brow: Has resolution been reached?

Erickson: I'll have to get back to you on whether it's resolved or not.

Ueland: It came to light there is fund to go Berkley for a Critical Thinking Workshop for people on Professional Development. It would benefit others to go.

Erickson: It's a request to attend a conference. I'll get back to you.

Budget update

Maki was at a meeting

Quistgaard: There's a Budget forum set for Feb 4. The news is what you heard before the holidays. It's not getting any better. Allocations are estimated at 2006 level. Looking at \$46m cut in state higher ed. WE'll give you more numbers at forum. We have to be balanced by 2012, and there's going to be a push to get bonding projects.

Leif: Can we get a sense of how much weight is given to data-book data at MnSCU?

Quistgaard: It's used a lot in academic affairs.

Brown: Can we get the NCHMS data?

Quistgaard: Sure. We'll be doing two, and we'll get them to you. They provide comparative data with other institutions. Findings have been similar.

Brown: We heard from the Student Senate co-presidents that was a daycare cut.

Erwin: It was one of the cuts made last fall. The current subsidy from the university is \$2k per child.

Cutler: Our early childhood teachers do their service there.

Erwin: There may be \$100k in Academic Affairs.

Ueland: Are there grants or other sources for early childhood?

Erwin: Most of them require licensed facilities

Quistgaard: We have to look for solutions.

Brown: What are you hearing about budgetary constraints on other campuses?

Quistgaard: Moorhead is working it's way out owing to enrollment. We're looking at BESI. Southwest have reduced full time down to part time. Mankato's enrollment is flat and they are talking retrenchment. St Cloud is looking at what might happen there. Most of us are settling on 5% tuition increase. The February forecast might tell us something.

We'll do some speculating on the range at forum..

Brown: Any other income streams we should be looking at?

Quistgaard: Always are. We met our enrollment goals for spring, which is good. We know there are some reductions that are going to be coming. We're all concerned about what's going to happen in 2012. We're doing a lot of thinking about it. We'll talk about planning assumptions. We have to keep the rumors down.

Leif: How's foundation doing?

Quistgaard: Doing well, but we can't afford to lose anything. Last year, we brought in new dollars. We're clawing our way back. We have two endowed chairs, and you have to think whether you want to get into that business. We are continuing to grow our legacies. There is a bright group of people watching over the board.

Enrollment

Erwin: Spring numbers: up 6% in credits, down 6% on campus, but up 33% in online. Were up 5% in applications, but transfer numbers are behind. Not sure why, but there's more recruitment. We are looking for director of admissions and for a TRIO director.

Quistgaard: We need faculty on the admissions committee. It's an important position.

Facilities

Quistgaard: Ongoing in Sattgast.

Erwin: We're looking at Birch for an upgrade. The mechanical system needs updating, This is different bonding. We're looking to increase the bonding cap. The students are behind it. we'll predesign this year, an it will be year or two to building.

Brown: What's the bonding cap currently?

Erwin: I'll send it to you.

Webb: Where is NTC? Aren't they reaching capacity.

Quistgaard: They have, so you might see them extend their hours rather than the size of facilities.

Positions update

Erickson distributed a list of current searches.

Morgan: How firm are these? We need to plan if they fall - or if one has to go.

Erickson: We're looking at having a future. In the case of catastrophe, we have to revisit them. There's money behind them at this point.

Quistgaard: At this point.

NeoGov

Brown: Do you know about the password problem with NeoGov.

Marek: The algorithm is a security problem.

Brown: We're hearing echoes of problems. There are still concerns about filters. Maybe more training for us, more training into using keywords

Brown: And moving on, we need more responsiveness from HR to chairs about NeoGov. Questions concerning tuition wavers and eligibility information. HR needs to be able to respond to these people.

Quistgaard: What is a good communication solution? Do we need to have someone talking to senate?

Brown: We've talked about this too, whether it's a task force or meetings.

Quistgaard: The auditors are demanding. We have to figure out a solution.

Leif: We don't know what to do next with a denial. Why not a signal of what to do next?

Erickson: There has been discussion at Dean's COuncil.

Quistgaard: What if were to designate a few people to meet with Bill. I'll talk to Bill.

Brown: We'll talk about it in Exec and get back to you.

Leif: The deans are putting office specialists in the position of checking for faculty presence.

Brown: Chairs should not be put in a position to take attendance - particularly in light of the online duties we're being encouraged to work. We're going to have to be careful in a wall-less university.

Grad Faculty Status

Leif: Grad faculty status and selection is in violation of contract. Person provides credentials, then department votes. Three-quarters or more, and the member is appointed. The vote is not a recommendation, but a statement of fact, and can't be used for recommendation. The recommendation can only be used are the five areas.

Quistgaard: We'll take that under advisement.

Leif: Can we get a listing of graduate status faculty, and how many have been denied and by what criteria?

Reduction of number of grad programs

Cutler gave the brief to Erickson. We're concerned that they are reducing the programs. This looks pretty serious, not just someone thinking about it. We're asking for feedback on these numbers, and is this the administrations stance?

Erickson: We have different levels, and all these have to reflect and fit into the university mission. We're talking about where we would put emphasis.

Quistgaard: We have different levels.

Brwon: Could we make the process more clear?

Quistgaard: Yes.

Double Counting of credits: passed 7 Dec 2010

The BSU Curriculum Committee proposes: An inclusion of up to 12 credits of liberal education courses may over-lap (double-count) within academic major and minor programs. Waivers of this 12-credit maximum will be rare and only under extraordinary accreditation/licensure circumstances will the BSU Curriculum Committee consider such action.

Assessment Plan - Feedback from Senate

Brown: Some senators still pondering. We'll get back to you,

CEL Guidelines

Erickson: There were 3 requests, and all were accepted.

Brown: Is there a printed process?

Erickson: From department to Dean to VP. We'll get you a copy.

Reorganization

Brown: Reorganization can happen annually, but we've gone past the time frame. There are departments still out there being worked, so this is a new reorganization. We're concerned with assessment.

Quistgaard: I don't see this as a new reorganization but ongoing.

Erickson: We have until 1 March to put in our reorganization. We'll be putting these in for this year.

Quistgaard: You're saying that there are accreditation circumstances that need to be considered?

Leif: Yes.

Erickson: Some of the reorganization was to reduce money.

Printed copies of catalog for faculty

Webb: Is it possible to have faculty to have one opportunity to request a print version of the catalog? We're asking for a request.

Quistgaard: It's a fluid document. Things change.

Marek: There are advantages to having print when we're advising.

Quistgaard: We'll take it under consideration.

Brown: Assessment Coordinator position is going out tomorrow

Erickson: Need an honors person, too.

Brown: Send us what you need, we'll put out a call.

Submitted

M C Morgan