Graduate Assistant: Matthew Coffman

Regrets: Jerry Robicheau, Stewart Ross

Meeting Agenda Approved

I. President Davenport

- Discussion of the future of and direction of MSU Mankato. Very positive picture and applauds the work of the commission.
- Why the administration change? Focus is all about the students and how do we better provide for and serve our students. The university should build on diversity in more of a broad sense.
- New Direction: Wants to combine the three legs of the stool
  1. Student Affairs
  2. Academic Affairs
  3. Diversity
- Needs the support from all groups. They need to support one another for an appropriate blend.
- Three steps for search of the Dean of Diversity
  1. Acting Dean of Diversity-Dr. Linda Duckett
  2. Dr. Olson will search of an Interim Dean of Diversity and will report to Academic Affairs.
- Commended the legacy and outstanding job that Dr. Michael Fagin has done over the past 39 years.
- Working with the IFO for Dr. Fagin to teach in Ethnic Studies department, and working on special assignments at the University.
- Proposed to name the Pan-African Conference after Dr. Michael Fagin, in honor of his 34 years of service in planning and organizing the conference.
- Proposed to appoint Dr. Fagin as the first Distinguished University Scholar for his service, teaching, and scholarship.
- The President has asked the Commission to serve on the committee for the hiring process of the new Dean of Diversity. “Think about the map and GPS to continue with Dr. Fagin’s success and legacy of Diversity with the institution.”
- Move forward with the organizational chart: Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair.
• Dr. Fagin will continue to work with the President’s Commission on Diversity. He is excited to go to the classroom and still maintain his consultation throughout the nation.
• Dr. Fagin has begun work on a book on his 40 years of Diversity. He wants to continue to “magnify and celebrate diversity within this institution.”
• Important element of reorganization is to enhance the lives of students on and off-campus.

II. Bob Hoffman (Charge 2)
• Extended learning at 7700 France in Edina, simply not a location, regionalizing MSU-Mankato.
• Intent is for new audience and increased enrollment
• Population boom in Twins-Cities and economic development.
• Most students served are placebound.
• Surveyed three groups: School Superintendents, two-year college Presidents, and Business leaders. The survey had three questions:
  1. How can we help?
  2. How can we mess you up?
  3. How can we collaborate?
• Survey showed that we can help with senior year, found that MSU-Mankato is difficult to do business with, no competition for the other colleges in the area, and businesses had a need for modular education (enhance skills) and certification programs.
• The 7700 France location has to develop who they are?
• Most students are non-traditional students.
• Displaced workers and a diverse student body.
• Responsibility to meet the student needs is very important.
• Ways the Commission can help? Reach new students by taking and distributing the value here at Mankato and transplanting it elsewhere, (marketing.) How can we sell to the program to diverse cultures. CAP program is represented quite heavily in the schools in the area.
• There is a large window of opportunity for meeting the needs of diverse students.
• Advising students is an issue. Need for an on-site advisor for the students.
• Has developed a one page informational sheet and plan to release sometime this spring. Needs PR representative to sell the programs offered.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 in CSU 238