Meeting called to order at 1:20 PM

Attendance: Rich Wheeler, David Williams, Lori Lamb, Torin Akey, Dean Trauger, Sandi Jessen, Joel Johnson, Mark Johnson, Diane Berge, Richard Davenport, Patricia Swatfager-Haney, Scott Olson, Mike Hodapp, Mike Fagin, Lucette Wildt

Guest: Kimberly Contag

Due to the late start of the meeting, the International Task Force Report (item c, under discussion items) was given first to allow guest Kimberly Contag to exit the meeting following the report.

- International Task Force Report—Diane Berge, Kimberly Contag

Berge and Contag reported the International Task Force was divided into three sub-committees: Study Abroad, International Students Studying at Minnesota State, Mankato and Business Partnerships. Information and interest was gathered from surveys and two open forums. Action items emerged and were distributed, along with four points of Budget recommendations. A full report is currently on the MSU web site.

Dr. Davenport stated that he believes this to be one of the most important initiatives in assisting Minnesota State, Mankato in moving forward to becoming a modern University.

I. Information items

A. Approval of Minutes—February minutes were distributed and approved.

B. MSUAASF President’s report—Joel Johnson

Johnson distributed the feedback received from membership on the RSO policy. The February MSUAASF general membership meeting will be held tomorrow (March 10).

C. MSU President’s Report—Richard Davenport

President Davenport is proposing a summit to address binge drinking. He would like to make this a major event and bring an expert to campus to discussed the myths of alcohol use and binge drinking with students. He feels strongly that we need to get the word out that this is a serious issue.
President Davenport noted that the MSU Basketball team is doing great. They will be competing at the NCAA regional tournament in Winona. He noted that the Men’s track team won the NCC, the MSU wrestling team is ranked number 2 in the nation with 9 of 10 MSU wrestlers heading to the National Championship. MSU, Mankato received the NCC All Sports Trophy for our athletic program and that the Men’s Hockey Team will be competing in the WCHA tournament in North Dakota.

President Davenport reported the Governor Pawlenty may be taking an interesting route with the bonding projects. It may that bonding projects are dropped for repair and replacement monies.

Currently, the President is working to get the College of Business building approved by the legislature which we must do even though it will be built with private funds. It will be the first time in the history of MnSCU that private monies will cover the cost of building a building and the operation of a building.

D. Vice President of Student Affairs—Patricia Swatfager-Haney

Swatfager-Haney expressed sincere thanks the ASF members that were of great help to all students following the recent death of a student. She expressed her appreciation with the professionalism and care that was shown to the students.

II. Discussion Items

A. Personnel—Lori Lamb

An updated roster on searches in progress, completed searches resulting in hires, and vacancies posted was provided. An offer has been made to a candidate of the Director of Development for the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. The appointment date of this position is April 3, 2006.

B. Budget Update—Dean Trauger

Revised numbers for the FY2006 budget will be available to the Budget Sub Meet and Confer Committee at their next meeting.

C. International Task Force Committee (first item in minutes)

D. Smoking Policy—Dean Trauger

The cabinet will review the policy and suggestions received from units. A solid policy for review should be ready by the end of April.
E. **VP Finance & Administration Search Update—Mark Johnson**

Pool review will take place on March 15. It is the hope of the committee to have the candidates on campus in mid April and appointment made by the end of Spring Semester.

F. **Holiday Scheduling—Lori Lamb**

A draft of alternate holiday provisions was distributed. If ASF agrees with the draft implementing the plan can move forward. Human Resources will then develop a communication strategy for this plan.

J. Johnson stated that ASF appreciates Lamb’s diligence with working on this issue.

G. **ASF Special Initiative Awards—Lori Lamb**

A draft of guidelines was developed by the committee. The guidelines are intentionally somewhat vague. Lamb noted that it was difficult to draft criteria for this initiative. It was decided this week how to work the funding mechanism for this initiative and some benchmarking has been done on how many of these awards can be given out per institution. The Chancellor is concerned that the monies will not be spent. Lamb noted that we need to encourage members to apply. She is willing to come to a general membership meeting to explain this process, if needed.

*It was brought to everyone’s attention that Fridays are purple and gold day.*

**Policies for Formal Review**

Recognized Student Organizations

**Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM**

Minutes recorded and submitted by
Sandi Jessen, ASF Secretary