

MSUAASF Meet and Confer
July 13, 2006
1:00 PM; CSU 256

Attendance: Patricia Swatfager-Haney, Rick Straka, David Williams, Gwynn Outka, Joel Johnson, George Cejka, Bryan Schneider, Richard Davenport, Torin Akey, Michael Fagin, Marcius Brock, Sandi Jessen

Guests: Larry Kohanek, Todd Pfingsten

Meeting Chair: Richard Davenport

I. Information Items

Dr. Davenport introduced Rick Straka, the new Vice President of Finance and Administration, and Bryan Schneider, the interim Vice President for Technology, Chief Information Officer. Dr. Davenport informed all that today was Gwynn Outka's first day at half time.

A. Approval of minutes—The April 27, 2006 minutes were distributed and approved.

B. MSUAASF President's report, Joel Johnson

There have been a good number of applications for Special Initiative funds submitted by ASF members and there has been good feed back about the process from members. As feedback comes in from members, we will continue to bring that feedback forward.

The Teamster regional meeting was held in Mankato on Tuesday, July 11.

C. MSU President's Report, Richard Davenport

A national search for the Vice President of Technology, Chief Information Officer will begin in the Fall, 2006.

President Davenport reported that the consultant for fundraising has advised that he needs to set aside 40% of his time for fundraising. He will need everyone's understanding during his absence from campus for fundraising. It is imperative to lay this ground work for new initiatives.

The systems office of MnSCU has four new board members. Governor Pawlenty will have a great deal of influence with this board. The focus will be on the IT initiative. The cost of this initiative as gone from \$12 million to \$150 million and we still do not have specific details on this cost.

The situation of the North Central Conference is tenuous. The NCAA requires that there be 6 member teams in a conference. UND is now going D1 which leaves the NCC with the bare minimum (6 teams). South Dakota is now feeling the pressure to go D1 and Augustana will now reconsider looking at another conference. Nebraska-Omaha has asked to join MIAC. This is problematic. MSU's options are to look at going D3, to look at another conference, perhaps a conference of only Minnesota Schools, or go look at going D1.

The intramural project will be addressed again this fall. If the students want it, it will happen, if not—it will not happen.

D. VPSA's Report, Patricia Swatfager-Haney

Laurie Woodward will assume her position as Director of the Centennial Student Union and Student Activities on August 1, 2006. Nadeem Mohammed is the newly hired CSU Evening Building Coordinator. The new food service director is Bill Harvey.

The new residence hall project is moving along nicely.

MSSA has new leadership, Gabriel Afolyan was elected the MSSA president.

Orientations have gone well with a great number of students participating in orientation.

Co-chairs of Welcome Week are Joel Johnson and Lauren Long. There will be a new student gathering for the first year class on Thursday, August 24, 2006 at 11 AM at the Taylor Center. This is the first year that an event like this will take place.

We continue to work on enrollment. We are down about 1% and are slightly down in all counts. We are also down slightly in terms of housing applications. International/Graduate students are down about 43% from last year at this time. We did have an increase in the number of students that made application and we did have an increase in the number of students that were denied application. All institutions are down in enrollment. Scott Olson and Henry Morris are currently at a conference where one of the main topics is Enrollment Management.

II. Discussion Items

A. Personnel, Gwynn Outka

An updated roster on searches in progress, completed searches resulting in hires, and vacancies posted was provided.

B. MSUAASF Special Initiative Awards, Gwynn Outka

The response locally on are campus has been good. We want to continue to urge members to apply for these awards.

C. Capital Campaign Update, David Williams

The consultant recommended to the foundation board that we move forward in a quiet phase. Initially we contact our first 100 prospects. Once we have reached those 100 prospects, then we will go public. The word campaign will not be used publicly in the near future.

D. Dirt removal, Campus Safety, Timing and Parking during Trafton remodel, Larry Kohanek

Kohanek explained the process of moving 500 loads of dirt. The start date for this project will be 9/15/2006. When asked about the safety of pedestrians and if crossing guards would be used, he stated that not at the traffic lights, but perhaps at South Road and Warren. Larry stated that there are 78 project managers working on various campus projects.

E. Campus Recreation Proposal Update, Todd Pfingsten

Survey Results: 930 completed which is about 7%. If this is representative, 72% of the students use our campus recreation facilities, 68% favor a referendum vote, 43% do not support the proposal, 29% did support the proposal and 28% were undecided.

Students say that the Web site and reporter are the best way to inform students.

The next step—Hopefully a referendum vote can take place in October or November. The pre-designs are due in October, so the committee will continue to meet with the architects. The lighting committee continues to study ways to modify the lighting and is working closely with the Astronomy Department. They will explore the costs of green lighting as it does not contain as much light pollution. The Astronomy department has asked campus recreation not to light any softball fields. Hopefully a compromise can be worked out. Dr. Davenport suggested a long range plan where we look for a new location for the observatory. The consultant highly recommended that we lay out a proposal that is based on our needs. Jessen asked if there was a plan in the works to educate students on the misconception that this project will only benefit student athletes. The committee is exploring ways to educate students as to how this will benefit all students. Straka said that we also need to consider a long term plan on how to deal with pedestrian traffic. Dr. Davenport emphasized that we need to work with the city and school system on this project and not just do this unilaterally.

F. Vikings Update, Rick Straka

MSU, Mankato has a 3 year contract with the Vikings, however, in October of each year, the Vikings have an opt out clause. The Vikings will leave campus on August 18, not August 17 as was reported by the Mankato Free Press.

The financial impact of the agreement is fairly consistent to what it has been in the past. MSU, Mankato receives about \$70,000. for residential life rental.

A change in this years camp is that autographs will not be open to the public as players cross the street and go through the tunnel.

Dr. Davenport stated that our institution needs to come up with a timeline to assist in moving forward with the Vikings staying on our campus an extra day. Akey asked that the campus be informed of the Vikings not breaking camp until August 18.

G. Catherine Hughes Market Salary Adjustment

The market salary adjustment for Catherine Hughes was approved.

H. Other

Johnson asked that ASF be notified as soon as possible about what committees and task forces on which members of ASF would be serving. Dr. Davenport stated that we would have a better idea of this after the retreat. Carol Stallkamp will email a list of committees/task forces/timelines and meeting times to Joel Johnson.

Johnson thanked President Davenport for the invitation for a number of ASF members to attend the retreat at Gustavus Adolphus College to be held August 11.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM

Meeting minutes recorded and submitted by
Sandi Jessen, ASF Secretary