

**MSUAASF Meet and Confer Minutes**  
**April 9, 2009; 1:15 p.m. CSU 204**

**Attendance:**

Richard Davenport, Scott Olson, Mike Hodapp, Shirley Murray, Brian Jones, Lori Lamb, Marcius Brock, Michael Fagin, Rick Straka, Marilyn Delmont, Richard Wheeler, Sandi Jessen, Linda Meidl, Walt Wolff, Lucette Wildt, Doug Mayo, Avra Johnson.

**Meeting Chair – Sandra Jessen**

**I. Information Items**

- A. Minutes from March 19, 2009 meeting were approved.
- B. MSUAASF Report: Sandi Jessen, ASF President
- Commented the ASF/Administrative Team retreat was very successful. ASF volunteers are being sought to work with Lori Lamb on summarization of retreat results and next steps.
  - ASF General Membership meeting was held on April 3, with major agenda gathering feedback on SA reorganization models.
  - State MSUAASF meeting scheduled for April 16-17 to discuss tentative contract agreement.
  - Election of officers for Mankato ASF membership will be held at the end of April. Sandi will not be running for another term as President since she will be retiring next year.
- C. President Davenport's Report
- Underscored positive sentiment regarding ASF/Administration retreat.
  - Noted that SA reorganization has now yielded 13-14 proposed plans for consideration.
  - Stated the Cell Phone policy draft listed on today's agenda will be tabled at this time.
  - Commented on budget: The House Committee on Higher Education has scheduled an all-day wrap-up session for Tuesday, April 14. This could result in some significant news or indications. The use of Stimulus money will also be discussed.
  - Mentioned the Centers of Excellence funding and he doubts these programs will be cut.
  - Expressed that he was happy that MSUAASF has reached a tentative settlement on its contract and is contributing to the budget solution with the salary freeze.
  - Reiterated that cuts that are made are done to try and use funds on "front line" for classes and other essential student services.
  - Briefly discussed changes in Extended Learning – the unit will now be under VP Bob Hoffman to increase efficiencies between units and step up efforts in online and EL students.
  - Noted that a Presidential newsletter on budget is being developed and anticipated to be sent within the next week. This newsletter will comment more on the specific cuts that have and are being made.

- D. Interim Assistant VP Student Affairs Report: Walt Woff
- Addressed enrollment numbers at this time: Applications up 11.7%; Admitted students down 3%; Transfers up about 16.5%; International still behind; Res. Halls down 4.2% but catching up with each new report. Orientation begins June-July and will give another good indicator of actual numbers. The trend has been that “show rates” have been down in recent years, not just here, but everywhere. Overall, Walt feels our numbers are looking quite positive for this point in the year.

**II. Action Items: Policies** Malcolm O’Sullivan

- Formal review period for policies ends on April 10. Next week, the comments received will be compiled and sent to drafters for final revisions before policies go forward to the custodians (appropriate VP’s) for decisions.

**III. Discussion Items**

- A. Differential Tuition for Online Programs: Scott Olson
- The Extended Learning Sub Meet is proposing a \$30 per credit differential tuition for online courses. These funds would be used to maintain online courses and generate new courses, recognizing there are more upfront costs involved with online courses. Other MnSCU schools have already taken this approach. Currently 75-80% of online students are residential students, rather than distance students. A similar differential tuition proposal is being considered for off-campus courses, but that would require MnSCU approval. Feedback from bargaining units is requested on the online differential tuition proposal in the coming weeks.
- B. Summer Meet and Confer: Rick Straka
- Because of the anticipated late news from the legislature and MnSCU Board regarding financial matters for next year, it is proposed that a July M&C date be established. MSUAASF is in favor of a summer Meet & Confer.
- C. Student Affairs Reorganization: Sandi Jessen & Scott Olson
- Sandi explained that MSUAASF member input on SA reorganization proposed models and concepts was gathered at the General Membership meeting on April 3. Feedback was solicited by posting all known proposed models, along with a section for Principles/Concepts, and allowing members to post their comments (without identification) next to the relevant model/area. Comments were then compiled and are being presented to Provost Olson today. Question was raised regarding themes or patterns of comments: Yes, some are evident, but no official MSUAASF position is being taken at this time. MSUAASF would like the opportunity to give feedback once the pool of possible models is narrowed.
  - VP Olson stated that a winnowing process would now take place. He will be joined by VP Straka, Lori Lamb, Walt Wolf, Sandi Jessen, the MSSA President and IFO President in narrowing and refining the options to be considered based on all feedback that has been received. This needs to be done in a very short timeframe so a decision can be made by early May and the portfolio of the new Dean of Students position can be identified.

D. Human Resources: Lori Lamb

- The list of open positions and searches was electronically sent out earlier this week.
- Question arose regarding AVP of Student Affairs position still remaining on list, and Lori explained this is being held until a determination is made regarding the new Dean of Students position.
- On the classified side, Lori explained that meetings have been held with AFSCME and its affected members regarding layoffs. They will now be following the contract regarding bumping rights, campus vacancies, seniority, etc. to resolve this process during the coming months.
- Lori also reminded ASF that she still needs Bargaining Unit input on the proposed increase in PIF award amounts from \$600 to \$750 for FY 10, due to the surplus of funds remaining in the PIF account at the end of this year.

E. Budget: Rick Straka

- Repeated that last month's discussion on the 10% cut scenario is still where things stand today. He remains hopeful that this will be a worst case scenario, which may be somewhat improved after the political process resolves itself.
- The Board will not act until June or July regarding final budget decisions for FY 10.
- Rick is aware that if reinvestment in classes can be made, timing of this is critical in order for faculty hires to be made.
- He also emphasized that the "major correction" in our budget that is being done now should address, in large part, the 2012-2013 projections. There's no way to assure that further reductions won't be needed, but the proactive stance now is meant to avoid another major "cliff" at that time.

F. Draft Cell Phone Policy: Tabled at this time.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Minutes recorded and respectfully submitted by  
Shirley Murray, ASF Secretary

Next Meeting: May 7, 2009; 1:15 – 2:45 p.m. CSU 204