I. Information Items

A. Reorder/Additions to Agenda — The discussion item “Work Areas” was deleted from the agenda and moved to the March 19 meeting. The agenda was approved.

B. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting — A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes.

C. President’s Report — President Davenport-The last two days were spent with the Leadership Council Presidents’ meeting with most of the focus on budget. Most of which you will hear within the next couple of days as announcements are sent out. Most of universities and colleges are following the same approach as far as communicating with the bargaining units, faculty, staff and students. We’ve been directed that the Board of Trustees supports our using our reserves in FY2010 and 2011. This is not yet approved by the Board. Some institutions are in very dire straights and we spent a lot of time talking about how to help those institutions both 2 year colleges and 4 year universities. I know one four year university that may surprise you, is in serious financial straights, Minnesota State University, Moorhead. Under the new leadership of Edna Szymanski they are working hard to figure out how to solve their budget problems. They have had budget problems for the last 12 years and the new President was left with quite a problem to begin with and on top of that the budget issues. Good news, our Allied Health and Nursing program which got knocked off the capital budget project list a year ago because it was too large for the most part and too expensive. We sized it down two to three times and this time it ended up under new projects in the top tier. There are three tiers of bonding projects and ours was in the top tier and actually in terms of a single capital project it was number one. The only one above us was the stem renovation programs at the various campuses. We feel very good about it. The reality is that it will be the largest bonding request in our history going forward if the board approves it. We’re not optimistic that we would get funded this year, but the strategy is if the legislature decides to fund a significant number of the bonding projects that are out there left over from last year we stand a chance of having it funded next year. We will
continue to have the town hall meetings and on-line open for your suggestions on cost containment strategies.

D. Bargaining Unit Leaders’ Reports
-**AFSCME (Pat Pearce)** – Day on the Hill March 10-11, Front line conference in May. Pat introduced Barb Mitchell, Council 5 new Business Agent and Julie Dornack, Library Services is the new local secretary.
-**MMA (Barry Wilkins)** – Nothing to report.
-**MAPE (Matthew Clay)** – Nothing to report.
-**MNA (Toya Schmidtke)** – Nothing to report.
-**MGEC (Mike Peters)** – Nothing to report.

E. MnSCU/Legislative Relations (Standing Item) – President Davenport-Students are planning a political rally of which we will participate in as an institution. The action we take as part of the legislative actions, our focus this year will be to primarily support the budget proposal coming forth from the coming forth from the Board of Trustees. President Davenport testified about a week ago on behalf of the university presidents in regards to how serious the problems were and what steps we were taking as universities to address the problems. That was the House Finance Committee. It’s going to be a difficult year dealing with the legislature as everyone has tremendous needs. The hope is that the federal stimulus bill will certainly be a benefit to the State of Minnesota. If it benefits the State of Minnesota it should help higher ed. There is language in the bill that specifically talks about higher education but the problem is interpretation of the language where there is, I will try to paraphrase it “if our budget and our funding drops back to the 2006 level, that will be compensated to the stimulus bill and may hold up to the 2006 level.” The problem is when you look at the language and our 2006 budget we are actually better off today than we were in 2006 even with the budget cuts. K-12, I just left the superintendent. He’s hoping the stimulus bill will help K-12. From a political standpoint were those words of higher ed being bias are thinking that K-12 needs to be on the table as well for budget cuts, they are not. I don’t think the DFL is going to allow the governor and the republican party to let K12, which makes up 40% of the overall budget to the State of Minnesota to go through this without some kind of budget reduction.

II. Action Items

A. Information on Formal Review of Policies for Spring Semester (Handout)
Everyone was provided with a handout on policies that are up for formal review.

III. Discussion Items

A. Standing Items (If Needed)

1. Parking-No discussion.

2. **Budget (Rick Straka)** VP Straka-This is a big topic for us and everyone in the state right now. Just a reminder that we appreciate all of the comments from members on the budget cost containment site. The list of comments was added publicly to the site and can be found at [www.mnsu.edu/finadm/budgetoffice/](http://www.mnsu.edu/finadm/budgetoffice/)
FY10 Planning, then enter your username and password. There are over 100 comments Y-T-D and we encourage you to go and look. One of the biggest questions that I have been asked relates to the news that we have put out to the vice presidents and divisions the level of 3% cuts, 6% cuts and 10% cuts. I keep being asked if that is across the board kinds of things, say we get a 6% reduction in our budget would we just implement everybody’s 6% budget plans. I don’t think that is what we are really looking for, all along what we have talked about is trying to create a pool of possible reductions that’s large enough that we can be strategic about what we pick. We want to be able to take a look at possible strategies and choose based upon our strategic initiative, strategic priorities, the number one priority right now enrollment management. How do we deal with those things, making a commitment on how to be constructive the best we can. That is the biggest question that I get asked. If we have a 6% reduction here we would probably as a Cabinet pull everyone’s 10% plans and then pick what we can do. It’s most likely you wouldn’t see every division taking a similar cut. We’re hoping that as we go through that strategic process that we will make very strategic decisions in that process. Is there other feedback that you hear from members? We are certainly open hearing them through the cost containment website and we will be having another Town Hall forum on February 18. Right now we only have the governor’s proposal. This is based on the numbers of the November forecast. The thing to remember about the governor’s proposal is that it contains some shifts and other things that he is doing that leaves us a problem in 2012. It doesn’t seem to hit us as hard, how can you get K12 (major part of the budget) not to take anything and we only see only 13-14% reduction in appropriation when the State of Minnesota is taking 13-14% overall. We are all guessing that the February forecast will be a 20% deficit for the State. The reason that happens is the governor hasn’t fully solved the ongoing base budget problem in his plan. His plan gets us through the biennium but when we get to FY12 we are going to face a $2.5 million structural shortfall at that point in time. His plan only fixes about half of the structural shortfall right now and hopes it is only temporary and the economy will rebound. It’s going to be hurry up and wait. The realistic thing is we have a forecast coming at the end of the month. The legislature will react to that and it will probably be April with a whole lot of politics between now and April without putting a lot of specifics and guidance for us on what our budget will be. Spending targets will probably come out sometime in April, that’s when we will have more specificity as a University.

3. **HR Topics (Lori Lamb)**
   a. **Unclassified/Classified Lists-**Updated lists were distributed. If you have any questions, please let Lori Lamb know.
   
   b. **Holidays-**Reminder that President’s Day coming up is a work day for everyone. Folks will either be given their alternate holiday or we will pay them according to their contract depending on the language that is in there. Reminder that next Veteran’s Day will be different. We need to start preparing since there will be classes in session, students will be on campus,
faculty will be teaching but we will not have all the classified units here. We will need to do some preparation as far as notifying individuals what offices will be open or closed, what services will not be provided. We need to start that planning process now so we can get through the day with as little disruption to our students.

4. **Campus Safety (Rob McGinn)** The EBC volunteer list is being routed around. Rob forwarded it to Pat and Rick with what has been filled. Not saying that all of those people will be selected. There are a number of vacancies, so if you do know of anybody that still wants to volunteer let Rob know.

5. **Master Planning (Bryan Paulsen)** VP Straka-Welcome to Bryan Paulsen from Paulsen Architect who will lead us through the master planning process. It’s been a long process and we are wrapping up all of our details. Bryan’s here to go over one more time the big picture on where we’re at. There is not a lot of changes since we had our open forum. Most of the changes have been in more detailed things like HEAPR projects, what our R&B needs are and tie that into facilities and assessment to each building. Our final submittal is in we just have a couple of things to do from the Central Office, clean up items and will be setting up a meeting soon where Bryan Paulsen and administration will be going up to meet with Laura King and other staff from the Office of the Chancellor to present our plan.

Bryan Paulsen-It’s been quite a long time since we kicked off this process, about 6 years ago. Some history, during the winter of 2006 we drew up the plan to present to admin/staff/students. At that time it was to gather their input. Some of the information received was greening of the campus, pedestrian safety and questions about academic cores, housing cores. They took that information and integrated it into the master plan. We also met with a group called the Facility Master Plan Group. In 2008 held several open forums in the CSU. That was the first time a lot of students or faculty had the chance to look at the 5 and 20 year plans. We gathered a lot of information and I will touch on the hot buttons that came out of the discussions:

- Desire to make it a pedestrian friendly campus was the #1 element
- Greening of the campus mall. The 5 year plan is not as aggressive as the 20 year plan. Looking at the mall, it’s pretty tired.
- Desire for transportation. Been working with the City of Mankato, Blue Earth County and traffic engineers assessing the whole campus. Huge desire to look at robust intra-transportation on campus, transportation hubs. Try to limit the vehicles and use mass transit. Places for people to park their bikes.
- Opportunities to elongate the campus currently with the property that is owned. Make it a walking campus and we start talking about cores (housing, academic and athletic). Desire to keep those cores together.
• Concern that the campus doesn’t get land locked. Have some sort of plan on land acquisition. It’s starting to be addressed in the capital part of the 5 year plan, but more so in the 20 year plan.
• Academic plan on the 5 year side focuses on the siting for the Allied Health and Nursing building, Trafton, siting for the COB which has been determined to be in Lot 4.
• In the 20 year plan we have added another building off Trafton for academics.
• Looking at incredible green space on campus and taking Armstrong out at some point. There is $15 million of maintenance needed to Armstrong. All agree that academic is the workhorse of campus and we are limited in classroom space.

President Davenport-Bryan, you might mention that we do have a couple of other projects that we are working on with the City that aren’t reflected here. We are looking at a study for a new Women’s Regional Hockey Center by land near parking lot 21. The proposal is that it is moving forward. It’s a City owned building, we would lease the land currently south of the free lot, and vacant land not being used. We would have a long-term lease with the City and they would operate that. The real need is classroom space of generic nature. When I testified to the House Finance Committee last week, they were so impressed with the fact that we are using the Cinema to offer large lecture classes. I wanted them to know how short we are on space. There will be a lot of changes to the plan. It’s a great plan 90% approved, each time in the future we will have Bryan come back for future forums on updates to the plan.

6. Oracle Conversion (Bryan Schneider)
An email was sent out to faculty and staff yesterday that the Oracle conversion for student records will be held off a month because they uncovered some problems. He would like some feedback from your divisions if the new dates of March 5-7 will be a problem. This is the Thursday and Friday before spring break.

IV. Other Items
Pat Pearce asked about the Going Green Committee that started. Rob McGinn said there is a committee set up and chaired by a student. They did have their first meeting last week. Not sure is there was an AFSCME representative on the committee. Rob will send Pat an email with the student’s name.

The meeting was adjourned.

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