

FACULTY ASSOCIATION MEET AND CONFER

Thursday, May 1, 2008

3:00-5:00 p.m.

CSU 204

(Administration Chair/Faculty Agenda)

NOTES

Attendance:

Faculty: Don Larsson, Jim Grabowska, Paul Hustoles, Mary Visser, Georgia Holmes, Patricia Young, Donna Brauer, Dick Swanson, Debra Anderson, Paul Mackie, Anne O'Meara, Glen Peterson, Theresa Salerno, Daardi Sizemore

Management: Richard Davenport, chair, Scott Olson, Lori Lamb, Rick Straka, Patricia Swatfager-Haney, Avra Johnson, John Winkworth, recorder

Guest: Malcolm O'Sullivan

Provost Olson called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. He reported that President Davenport was delayed by his meeting with the campus consultants to review the results of the workplace bullying and psychological aggression survey. FA President Larsson: The FA Executive Committee is scheduled to meet with these consultants in this room following this meeting.

1. Information Items—

a. Reorder/Additions—Provost Olson: President Davenport will be here shortly so I suggest we begin with the Provost's Report and the FA President's Report.

b. MSU VPAA/Provost's Report—Provost Olson: We're in the final stages of securing a lease on the property at 7700 France Avenue which will serve as our center for Extended Learning efforts in the Twin Cities. Recall we are doing this to help offset the expected decline in new student enrollments from high school and to help secure our enrollment. I am passing around a second draft of the Strategic Planning Report Card for your review. Extended Learning Sub Meet approved this on-line copyright protection. We need to have procedures in place. Please take a look at this for our meet in fall. We are approving new positions and urging a spring round of position requests and authorizing searches earlier than in the past. Also there will be a new category for continuing searches. We negotiated a new collective bargaining agreement which results in significant salary increases for our faculty. We won MnSCU outstanding achievement in educational program and student service awards in all four categories (<http://www.mnscu.edu/media/newsreleases/current/article.php5?id=31>). There were many high points during the year, not the least of which was our continued work in developing a culture of excellence in shared governance.

c. FA President's Report—FA President Larsson: I want to echo the words of Provost Olson and state that it has been a great year. Nancy Black wraps up her term as IFO President; Rod Henry, Bemidji State, is the new President. Intellectual property continues to be a concern of the faculty. Contract settlement has some important language changes. At the state level our text book pilot proposal setting up a textbook reserve system in the Library was one of six proposals funded at the System level. A number of conversations continue including the issues in the Transportation Safety policy; departments will want to keep their eye on this. As a point to close on, I look forward to seeing many of you at the fall retreat. Remember tomorrow's

picnic. **College of Extended Learning Proposal/General Education/MnTC Letter:** There is a two-year college proposal not to include Modern Languages in General Education; we co-signed a letter with the President and the Provost expressing our opposition. We have approved the naming proposal (a majority of the Executive Committee was in favor). We believe strongly that curricular matters need to remain grounded in the departments. **Graduate Assistant Cost of Living Increase:** We agree with this cost increase idea. **3. Tuition Waiver for Summer GA's:** We agree that GA's working in the summer should receive some tuition waiver support. FA? What about programs in the Twin Cities at the 7700 France location? President Davenport: We are looking forward to offering a variety of classes in the fall. There are a number of other MnSCU institutions that would like a state university partner in their program offerings, places like Century. This is something we continue to work on.

d. MSU President's Report—President Davenport: We are wrapping up the search for the Vice President for Advancement. We have three outstanding candidates. I hope to make a decision by the end of next week. Steve Bohnenblust's article in the *Mankato Free Press* on campus safety was quite good. The retreat with ASF was productive with a focus on problem-solving. Commencement—we expect between 15,000 and 18,000 visitors to the campus. The strategic planning report card tries to report twice a year on our progress. This latest version shows that we are staying on track. Provost Olson: We are working to close the planning-assessment loop. Some items are easy to assess, while others are not, e.g., improve advising services. Another round will have the Assessment group look at the report. President Davenport: We are continuing our two-year college tour. So far I've been to about 10. Metro two-year colleges are looking forward to working with us. They are encouraged by our interest while disappointed with the lack of follow-through of the other state universities.

e. Human Resources Topics—Human Resources Director Lamb: I want to express my appreciation to the FA for helping to solve problems before they become problems. There is a bullying session coming up with the Executive Committee. You should have received personnel postings electronically. Let me distribute a list of committee assignments to help us get going in the fall. FA? Why is Dean Frey listed? Provost Olson: The list you have is this year's list of assignments. We will review the list in August of administrative assignments and make recommendations to President Davenport. FA President Larsson: If there are things that need attention over the summer, please let us know as soon as possible. If faculty members are required to work on non-duty days, they should be paid. I hear there is an issue with the holiday schedule. Associate Vice President Winkworth: FA has a concern with schedules in December. Human Resources Director Lamb: The University will be open other than on Christmas and New Year's Day.

f. Update on the Policy Review Process—Policy Coordinator Malcolm O'Sullivan: Tomorrow is the last day for expedited review of the five policies (listed below). Our new policy web site will begin in the fall. Thanks to the FA representatives (Mike Bentley and Paul Hustoles) for their active involvement. We have agreement on the make-up work alternative policy.

2. Action Items—

a. Policy Expedited Review—The five policies for expedited review are as follows: Dealing with Allegations of Research Misconduct; University Undergraduate Graduation

Requirements; Probation/Suspension Policy; Student Financial Aid Eligibility Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Standards; Bicycles and Motorized Scooters. FA President Larsson: We have no additional comments on these policies.

b. Academic Calendars (2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12)—FA President Larsson: We have no additional comments on the proposed academic year calendars. One issue of concern is the redefinition of the summer term. This matter needs resolution in the early fall. There is the need to coordinate the summer calendar with the Vikings, facilities availability and summer orientation. New contract nine-month appointments is another issue that needs to be resolved.

3. Discussion Items—

a. MnSCU/Legislative Relations—President Davenport: We are pleased with the bonding results. The only one we didn't get was planning money for the second sheet of ice. As for additional budget challenges, we are looking at \$6.5 million reduction that the Office of the Chancellor will cover. Should the deficit increase, this is likely to be another issue. FA President Larsson: Common-course numbering is no longer actively under consideration.

b. Budget—Vice President Straka: It doesn't look like we will need to do more than the planned 1½ % reduction. This year (FY2008) we continue to look to be in balance. The reserve is at 6½%. FA President Larsson: TA/GA Adjunct budgets are being looked at to meet the 1½% reduction. Provost Olson: The Deans on Wednesday submitted their reduction plans. We expect to see a mixed response with some one-time money like summer, and some other long-term solutions. FA VP Grabowska: When will this be put in place? Provost Olson: We expect this to come together in a week or two. FA?: When are the enrollment numbers good? Vice President Straka: We should have a pretty good idea around 7 to 10 days in the fall term. Provost Olson: Deans are looking at enrollment demands of new students. A list of instructional needs will be met with additional resources set aside for this purpose. This does look strange but there are realities that need to be taken into account. Vice President Straka: We are looking at *status quo*. Vice President Swatfager-Haney: Our current Admissions numbers show us up 3-4%. Vice President Straka: Summer enrollment numbers seem to be up. We are getting more and more confident with each passing day. Vice President Swatfager-Haney: There are other sources of funds: student activity fees, enrollment management funds, and strategic priority funds.

c. General Education 4-5 Credit Course Policy—Faculty Chair of the General Education Committee Ron Nickerson explained the recommendation for departments wishing to increase courses to 4 or 5 credits. Increasing the number of competencies are expected to accompany all requests to increase the number of credits.

d. Supplemental Funding for CESR—FA: We thought we had a problem with funding of CESR but thanks to generosity from both sides I guess we don't. CESR Director Bohnenblust: We are getting demand for our services. We asked for money to fund a summer graduate assistant. The FA Executive voted to put in \$500 and Dean Blackhurst has come up with some funds so we can offer additional services. It is taken care of. FA: We very much appreciate the administration's response. CESR Director Bohnenblust: Thanks to the FA.

e. IT Issues—Bryan Schneider: D2L will be down from June 5 until June 8 to enable staff to make the necessary upgrades in D2L. Today an e-mail message was sent at 3:22 p.m. to

all D2L accounts. Down for a week-end then up for the summer. The planned upgrade to version 8.3 is expected to overcome the copyright infringement issues.

f. Emergency Response Procedures—VP Pat Swatfager-Haney: Let me summarize some of the issues. There are a number of items on-line: crisis response and emergency preparedness, as well as the threat assessment and litigation intervention teams. We have a well-developed student conduct code. Student rights but campus safety issues are most important. An emergency notification system is being developed by MnSCU. Those are a few updates. We are always looking for suggestions.

g. Summer Teaching for Department Chairs—FA President Larsson: Unit Reps worked all year on this issue. Chairs are not required to teach. We came to a couple of conclusions but we are not recommending major changes: a chair may teach and a chair may have an FA representative review the additional day assignment.

h. New Contract Implications: Summer Terms; Sabbaticals; Task Force on Nine-Month Appointments; Article 22, Athletics and Split Appointments—FA President Larsson mentioned a number of changes contained in the new Collective Bargaining Agreement: all sabbatical leaves will be funded at 80%; mandatory sabbaticals; split appointments and the requirements for consultation related to Article 22; university scholar provision where there is a need to work out the details; and the nine-month appointment task force.

i. Summary of MSUAASF Retreat Information—Provost Olson: Earlier, President Davenport mentioned the positive outcomes of his meeting with the ASF leadership. If the FA Executive Committee wishes a similar meeting with the President's Cabinet, let us know.

FA President Larsson: The Trafton move is delayed until the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

John M. Winkworth
Reviewer for Management

Paul J. Hustoles
Reviewer for Faculty