University Advisory Council

September 24, 2020

Attendees: Alisha Schroeder, Riley Mortenson, Becky Toth, Christian Oberquell, Corey Kopp, Cristy Ozburn, Cindy Small, Christ Wendland, Dan Ulmen, Vicki Gist, Jay Howland, Greg Kegel, Lisa Moisey, Margaret Campbell, Maura Gatch, Neil Moisey, Jim Potter, Randy Maglino, Scott Guyant, Steven Don, Shantel Cronk, Sue Solomon, Suzanne Hunger, Tammy Boles, Valerie Guyant, Wanda Meredith

Policy Review

Policy 304.1 and Policy 308.2 have both been reviewed by the Responsible Parties, no changes to the policies themselves.

Policy 804.11 - Minor changes

Christian – motion to approve
Valerie – second
All in favor, changes approved.

Strategic Planning: Northern Values

Values have been constructed by a think tank team to try and encapsulate who Northern is, then sent to the campus for community input.

Access, Equity & Inclusion: Corey – developed the values with the idea that it serve a few purposes both internal and external – we want to be honest about who we are, and what our aspirations are as an institution, and also how we are making education accessible/available to everyone.

Excellence: Neil – discussing where we are now and where we hope to be with a continuous improvement mindset. Looking at learning in a lot of venues across campus, not just the classroom. We want to focus on practical education that serves our state, and that it takes place in integrated and independent ways. Trying to capture our desire to provide broad, wholistic opportunities for learning.

Life-Long Learning: Maura – stems from a few different areas. Degree allows students to go back to their communities and make a positive impact, but also develops a passion for knowledge beyond college and the classroom. Instilling the pursuit of knowledge beyond graduation.

Authenticity: Lisa – capture the pride we feel about who we are, and the quality of graduates from Northern, as well as the rural aspect of our institution and the focus on upward mobility.

Collaboration: Lisa – attempting to focus on the university’s goals of partnership and engagement both with industry, with one another, and with students. Inspiring all of us to work together to move our students forward, in addition to the importance of industry partnerships.
Stewardship: Corey – attempt to capture intentional choices, how we leverage our resources on a day to day basis needs to be thoughtful and contextual. We need to stay focused on moving our goals forward and keeping the future of the university in mind.

Comments
Margarett – replace the word “difference” with diversity in the first value
Cristy – impressed with the insights developed by colleagues across campus, recommend having the think tank revise the document to include that input.
Shantel – our Values are wordy as compared to value statements created by other universities. Consider simplifying the statements, or including a one-line synopsis that captures the broader statement.
Valerie – “we strive to become” implies we are not currently those things; using the word “be” suggests now.
Valerie – perhaps “embrace” rather than “expect” reciprocal relationships
Chancellor Kegel – collaboration is the fourth leg of the stool, ensures that we provide a student with a step into the workforce beyond graduation.
Neil – an advantage of a small campus is that collaboration isn’t an option, it’s vital that we work together and wear multiple hats. Wonderful examples of working across sectors in order to accomplish great things, which we can celebrate as an impressive achievement being as rural and small as we are.

Next Steps
Will not be voting today, but will make revisions and send the draft back to the university. Will bring that draft back to UAC for an official vote.