

University Advisory Council

September 22, 2016

Attendees:

Policy Review

Chancellor discussed the "Enterprise" 4-campus policy procedure. Northern has an opportunity to voice comments or concerns before it is implemented.

Chancellor discussed the importance of the alcohol policy (1003.1) in thinking through the message it sends and making sure the campus is safe. Rachel reviewed the updates to the policy, including when and how student groups can sponsor an event with alcohol. Reviewed the changes presented to Strategic Advancement. Carol moved to approve, Larry second. All in favor.

Proposed policy 1001.7_2 on Reasonable Accommodation reviewed by UAC.

Ligia commented that the Accommodation Coordinator (HR Director) should be referenced throughout the policy (ie, in 6b) rather than the ADA Coordinator. Many forms differ from what Northern currently uses.

Round Table

Bill reported on prep for Northwest Accreditation visit. Eight people will be coming to Northern. Thanked Dean Reifschneider for taking on the self study, a monumental effort to be commended. OPI review of Education coming up in April.

Brian reported that a great effort was put forward by multiple offices on campus to contact the 222 students who had not yet signed their billing paperwork. SAD committee met and discussed active shooter training, looking at scheduling something in the spring. Board of Regents powerpoint presentation looked at how campuses are administered. Northern employees are encouraged to look at the powerpoint, particularly at the slide regarding consolidating services. Might be able to "offload" some duties that make sense.

Arlys reported that nursing is working on implementing the new curriculum. New phlebotomy instructor is coming on board.

Vicki reported the library is very busy. New fireplace in the basement lounge is very popular. "Get booked" for reading next week, invited all attendees to come by the library.

Ligia reported that testing portion of computer lab is being moved upstairs. Technical difficulties were getting cumbersome, and computer licenses were more expensive. Going to devote two study rooms upstairs to testing. Will be much easier to monitor. Carrels and chairs have been shipped. Will have to recertify the center once it is complete.

Steve Wise reported his office is busy with the Clery and accreditation reports. Have implemented locking the buildings at night, has been a challenge. Sending the message that this is to protect our residents. Making accommodations for students who come in late, have an on-call system with RAs and RDs. Ultimately planning to put in a card reader system.

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Becky reported students are still eating a lot! Food service is fully staffed with full-time people, looking for a few more student workers.

Carol reported on OPI visit, meetings with initial and advanced education programs to walk through the accreditation process. Hagener had some water inside due to heavy rain.

Larry reported classes in remote Fort Peck facility seem to be going well, lab sessions scheduled later in the semester. Have lots of really full courses – electrical, plumbing are overfull and working on making sure adequate resources are available. Meeting is set with general contractor of new DTC building. Still moving things into storage to prepare for demolition. Working on providing additional training to the campus for how to manage assessment and ensure it is being implemented consistently across departments and units.

Cindy reported Financial Aid is busy. Most refunds went out last week, gearing up to start new FAFSA Oct 1. Can get students ready much sooner, using same tax return information as last year. Early application deadline moved from April to February. Sent annual application for funds end of September that shows how funds were expended last year.

Kristi reported that we should feel good about our enrollment numbers – a success along the way to our ultimate goal. Increase of 35 FTE overall, undergraduate headcount up by 28 students (up 40 undergrad FTE). Increase of 10% for the last three years in new to campus students. Tours completed in eastern and central parts of Montana. Thanked the faculty for their interest in going on the road with recruiters to promote their programs.

Rachel reported that the Chancellor's office is working on an initiative to provide facility improvements to the faculty offices on campus, provide a professional and welcoming atmosphere for students. Also finishing up fundraising for Diesel Technology Center.

Chancellor Kegel reported he was very proud of the football team for their fantastic win on Saturday. The win was significant and noticed around the state. Discussed the demographic shift that hit Northern years ago that impacted enrollment, and now Northern is stabilizing. Because of the efforts to put in practical programming we are now seeing growth. Doing the right thing in seeing an increase in FTE and incoming freshman. If we can retain those students, the headcount number will follow. "Throwing the net" early will help, as well as collaborating with Kiewit across various programs. The momentum is now going in the right direction. Working hard on cultivating fundraising gifts – Northern needs to look like a "winner."

Chancellor Kegel also discussed the importance of having a strategy to move Northern forward – Havre is not a "destination" school in the traditional sense but does have its own appeal, excellent placement rates. Northern has an identity that can be built on. If we do not grow, it's because we are not helping ourselves – there is no one else to blame. Making progress on strategic initiatives, including the football stadium. Will be a comprehensive sports complex that includes a community center, a wellness center, take pressure off the gymnasium by moving football out. Will provide Northern with a rock-solid identity and the investment in student life will make a significant impact on Northern's enrollment. Equine program also moving forward with support from faculty and the community. Native American Cultural Center has a private investor who may be interested in funding the project. Great Falls

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coordinator will be in place early October to ensure our outreach in that community is strong. Working on outreach opportunities for the diesel program in both Great Falls and Lewistown, possibly beyond.

Passion comes from commitment, not interest. Northern has an identity, is committed to it, and stands ready to win.

Chancellor attended a symposium on workforce development where Bob Anderson had a display, and next week will be attending a research tour where the Advanced Fuels Center will be making a presentation.

Other Announcements

Alumni Auction coming up next Saturday

Mariachi group will be on campus Monday

Next Meeting October 27, 2016

Adjourned 5:52pm