

University Advisory Council
March 23, 2017
Attendees:

402.1 University catalog and course master file

Motion to approve. Norton first, Steve Don second. All in favor.

403.1 Program Review

Suggestion to include BOR language in addition to the link. SAT objected because the BOR policy changes regularly (every 5-6 months). Our policy will not be updated that often.

Motion to approve. Larry first, Norton second. All in favor.

403.3 Curriculum: Course numbering procedure

Motion to approve. Norton first, Steve Don second. All in favor.

1003.4 Communicable Disease and Infection Exposure Control

Had not been revised since 1996. Being presented as a complete re-write. At the last SAT made some small final modifications including the title of the policy to clarify its intent. Has been a collaborative effort by multiple departments

Motion to approve. Steve Don first, Arlys second. All in favor.

1300.XX Procurement of Information Technology Equipment and Software

Overview of purchasing requirements. First statement aligns with language in the purchasing forms.

Motion to approve. Sherry Kegel first, Bill Rugg second. All in favor.

Announcements

Steve Wise – working on responses to the student life survey done last fall. Renovation/reconfiguration of fitness center happened quickly and efficiently in response to student input. Seven newly covered pool tables and fixed pool cues completed over spring break. Developing a culture of “if we own it we take care of it.” Planning to replace all mattresses in the residence halls this spring. Inviting students to stay in the residence hall and make an impact as older students on younger students; every student over 240 generates revenue that can improve the quality of the halls.

Sherry Kegel – just completed the Red Cross blood drive, appreciate the support. Working on adding space in Student Health area to house a Counselor (fee increase has been approved by Student Senate to fund the majority of the position). Interior decorator will be visiting campus to provide insight on how best to incorporate the new office.

Brian – Auxiliary revenue generation is doing “great,” ahead of last year. Active shooter training conducted over spring break. Will attempt to do during orientation or possibly while class is in session to increase participation. Auditors in town over spring break, went well. Additional auditors coming in April. Proposed legislative cut to allocation has been dropped to \$11M (from \$23M).

Arlys – St Vincent visit to campus to talk with Northern students, spoke with them about the BSN completion program. Kaplan admission testing begins in April.

Bill Rugg – going through faculty portfolios for promotion and tenure process. Scholarship awards program coming up on March 31.

Ligia – Starting installation of software to do Praxis test on Monday in the dedicated testing lab. Passing of Becky Nicholson is felt strongly by the staff, but her files were perfectly organized and nothing is difficult to find.

Vicki – Newly installed espresso machine is up and running! Busy in the library, business as usual.

Maura – up 18% in applications for fall of 17. Online application is much easier to use. Starting priority registration for freshman in April to increase the conversion rate. Education Professions Day end of April. 45 students on campus for Health Professions Day yielded 2 new nursing student applications.

Cindy – working to streamline Scholarship Awards day (without losing the engagement). An uplifting time of year. Award letters going out for next year, may have to adjust tuition/fees based on what OCHE decides, but there will be no additional funds to cover those changes. Working on Pell grant adjustments, manually inputting FAFSA forms. Sometimes results in students who have received Pell grants having their grant reduced. Backfilling as much as possible with unused scholarship money but it likely will not be sufficient.

Sue – Returned from an annual bookstore industry conference. Aware of the challenges presented by Amazon, ebooks, rentals. Working on ways to ensure students are getting a good value. Enjoyed the trade show, exploring what new items can be offered this coming year.

Chris Wendland – AR position still open. TAACCCT 3 coming to campus to review.

Christian – seasons have ended. Two national wrestling champions, sportsmanship trophy 4th year in a row. Women's basketball lost to a final 4 team at national championship, 2 NAIA All Americans. Now in the recruiting process. Hosting HS basketball tournament this weekend. Then gym transitions to host pow-wow; SkillsUSA; Spring Fling; concert; commencement. Summer camps will be online by early April.

Nichole Borst – advising new students, working on transfers. Spring volleyball is underway.

Larry – windstorm blew down part of the building last week; no permanent damage. Still ahead of schedule and anticipating getting into the building this time next year. TekNoXpo coming up in April.

Steven – SkillsUSA on campus April 3-5, schedule is finalized and will be sent next week. Still seeking a few judges. Brings close to 500 people to campus. TekNoXpo looking to bring 220 students to campus, primarily juniors-seniors. Please make them feel welcome.

Norton – finalists on campus for Community Leadership position. Next week mathematics finalists will be on campus.

Paul Techo – working with at-risk students trying to get them back on track. Advising students for the summer, expecting it to pick up in a week or so.

Mary Heller – attended armed intruder training, very helpful and makes you think. An advocate for gun rights, but this made it apparent that not every situation is as simple as pulling your gun and shooting the “bad guy.” Would like to see it offered to students. Preparing for summer co-ops, developing a workshop schedule. Working on GE Transportation interviews for Health Promotion internships – first time ever, usually recruit diesel students. Going to a conference on co-ops and internships, along with Jack Bieger. Stockgrowers hosting “Beef and Brews” tomorrow night. Student Barry Francis has been asked by Stockgrowers board to join a committee—only MUS student to ever be asked to do so.

Jamie – Faculty Senate nominating new VP, Mark Sieffert. Jamie likely to serve as President next year.

Rachel – commencement speaker will be Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke. Chancellor asked for a marketing committee to be established. Working on website revamp, social media policy, branding standards, and advertising strategies.

Greg – reductions being considered by legislative session are down to half of the original estimate. Northern has been “flagged” as being funded per FTE at a much higher rate than the rest of the state; due to a low enrollment. Bringing 94 new students to campus would fix that. We have been working on the “R&R” campaign (recruitment and retention) to highlight the importance of getting Northern stabilized. The strategic goal is 1500 students on campus. Need to focus on systemic problems, not outliers. Northern’s retention rate is the lowest in the system, and it doesn’t move. What needs to change? The big problem is that nobody knows the answer. We all need to take ownership of the problem and get to the bottom of it. Recruitment is hard; once they are here, we need to keep them. Many, many good things are happening on this campus, including incredible student and alumni success stories. Working on a real strategic plan that includes the charge group initiatives.

Adjourned 4:47pm