

April 21, 2010

TO: MSU Faculty, Staff, Student Leaders, and Board Members

FROM: David Fuller

SUBJECT: ¹Monthly President's Report

Current

Dr. Rabe's announcement and decision to return to teaching

As explained in the notice to campus, Dr. Rabe has decided to return to the classroom and his research projects, and to spend more time with his family. I have appreciated Gary's devoted work as the vice president of academic affairs and the many positive contributions he has made to our academic program and to the university. He will continue to make notable contributions to the university through his teaching and his work in research. I plan to consult with the Faculty Senate and Gary's direct reports.

Swain Hall moves in June-July

Plans are underway to prepare to move faculty and programs in teacher education to Swain as early as June.

Meetings regarding relocation of social science division to Old Main

Dr. Rabe, Dr. Davidson, and I met with the incoming and outgoing chairs of social science to explain the rationale for the decision to move social sciences into the space vacated by teacher education on the second floor of Old Main. We also held a meeting with the full social science division to explain the justification, the process, and proposed schedule.

Presentation to the SBHE in Mayville

At the SBHE meeting, each president was allotted time to offer comments about the proposed SBHE budget and to discuss each institution's two major capital project proposals. We provided the board members a presentation booklet describing the details of our proposed geothermal system and the second phase of the Health and Wellness Center. The vice chancellor for finance will be visiting each university campus to discuss the capital requests prior to the Chancellor determining what capital projects will be included on the priority list of ten that will be submitted to the SBHE.

Presentation to the Mission Review Task Force of the SBHE

Each president presented to this special task force a review and recommendation regarding changes in the 2004 SBHE mission statement. We provided a detailed list of

¹ The President's Report is a monthly summary of activities in the president's office and current issues affecting the campus. The report is distributed widely to keep the community up to date on current initiatives and decisions. The report is provided at the monthly meeting of the University Cabinet, an advisory council comprised of all supervisory directors, vice presidents, and senate presidents. This report is distributed electronically to all faculty and staff, student leaders, the Board of Regents, Foundation Board of Directors, and Alumni Board. The report is also posted on the university's web site. Anyone interested in learning more about this information may contact the President's Office or the president directly.

changes reflecting the changes in our university and in our Vision 2013 work and our expanded service area. Included in my presentation were references to our preliminary plans for geriatric research, new directions in economic development, expanded international programming, and preliminary plans for new programs, such as Studies in the Community and Environment and a clinical doctorate in special education and communication disorders. The task force will provide a report to the full board in a subsequent SBHE meeting.

Health and Wellness Center

A final design has been prepared by the architects and will be used as the basis for soliciting construction bids. The plans are to begin construction on the center in July.

Compensation Task Force and results

Wes Matthews and the CTF members held two open forums to describe the recommendations for salary distributions in 2010-2011. Additionally, a brochure was distributed to show the results of the five-year salary goals. From 2006 to the current year, the salary objectives have been accomplished and show significant improvements.

Field renovation

Bids were accepted to begin work on the installation of Field Turf on the football/soccer field, with the removal of the track. A berm will be formed around the field to incorporate a bowl effect. In the interim, our track team will be using the Minot Public School track. In a future phase of the full stadium project, a new track is planned, perhaps in the area now designated as the practice field directly north of the stadium.

Vietnam and Indian university partnerships

Minot State is currently exploring the potential for partnerships with a university in Vietnam and in India. Both universities have expressed interest in considering agreements to support recruitment, exchanges, and study tours.

Food service vendor interviews

The five-year service agreement with Chartwells is up for renewal. We are currently interviewing a number of food vendors, including Chartwells. A number of new needs and expectations have been shared with the vendors, including more healthy food choices, presentation, infrastructure changes, and student charges and options.

Memorial for Beth Pross

A memorial service for Dr. Beth Pross, a former professor of nursing and chair of the department, was held recently at the First Presbyterian Church. Many people attended the service, including many from Minot State. Beth was an outstanding faculty member and worked very hard in support of students and our nursing program. I appreciated so much the many efforts Beth took to support nursing and our university. She was on the original Planning and Budgeting Council that oversaw the development of Vision 2013. We thank Beth for her many contributions to our university. Our deepest condolences are extended to her family.

Digital storage and archiving

A small group of faculty and staff got together to discuss what the university should be doing to preserve important documents for an historical record. The group is investigating how other universities address this need. At some point we will ask others to join us in these conversations about storage and archiving.

Employee appreciation luncheon

We were very pleased to recognize our faculty and staff and to thank them for the work they do for our students and our university. Recognitions and acknowledgements for years of service were made, and the Board of Regents Achievement Awards were handed out to the recipients during this event. Chartwells served a wonderful meal. Thanks to the coordinating committee for another good job making this event successful.

List of Selected Activities and Events in President's Office (since March 17, 2010)

March

- Food service vendor interviews
- Admission Criteria open forum
- Football field bid opening and review
- CETL open house
- Presentation on Thoreau to Honor's Class
- Dianna Anderson's piano recital
- Chancellor's Cabinet meeting in Bismarck
- Trinity Board meeting
- Athletic facilities and fundraising consultants
- Performance reviews and interviews
- Faculty Senate
- Compensation Task Force meeting
- MSU at the Mall
- China and Sias International Meeting
- Faculty senate president meeting
- SGA meeting
- Presentation to the State Board of Higher Education Mission Review Task Force in Bismarck
- SBHE meeting in Mayville; presentation to SBHE on capital projects
- Experiential learning meeting with CETL
- Beth Pross memorial service
- Meeting with capital campaign feasibility consultant
- CTF and coaches salary comparisons
- Ground breaking ceremony for field renovation project
- Luncheon meeting with Board of Regents representatives
- BIT faculty candidate interview
- Welcome at Market Place for Kids conference
- Special presentation to Leon Perzinski
- Hosted luncheon for John Kutch, the new Trinity CEO, on campus and tour of facilities
- Meeting with deans regarding colleges and strategic plans
- SGA president meeting
- Meeting to discuss a partnership with an Indian university

April

- Interim Higher Education meeting in Bismarck
- Meeting with local legislators
- CTF open forums
- Meeting with Marsha Krotseng from NDUS Office
- Architectural design of Wellness Center meeting
- Humanities Division award luncheon
- BOR Executive committee
- Meeting with Barnes and Noble representatives
- Interview on Bismarck radio station
- Who's Who Luncheon welcome
- Booster Spring Party
- Meeting with social science chairs and dean of A/S to discuss facilities
- Otto Bremer Foundation board members on campus
- Discussion of digital storage and archives
- Meet with YMCA Board chairs and manager
- Employee Appreciation Luncheon
- Dakota College at Bottineau Recognition luncheon
- Food service vendor interviews

- Meeting with faculty from the division of social science regarding office moves to Old Main
- Hosted dinner at home for Gala attendees
- Meeting with Roger Tollefson
- Chamber Board of Directors meeting
- Staff Senate meeting

Concluding Remarks

We are pleased with the beautiful spring weather and our university's successes in providing our students effective teaching and learning and a premier educational experience. A preliminary review of the performance indicators and comparisons to the ten premier universities in the Great Plains has revealed that Minot State University is making significant improvements and continues to remain on line to exceed the average ratings for most of the performance indicators of the premier universities by 2013. Those successes are attributable to our faculty and staff, our students, and to the many people who support Minot State. Thanks to all of you for continuing to make a difference in the lives of our students and the direction of our university.

David Fuller
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