

8/2/13 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Dewey Blansett, Dr. Jim Borsig, Dr. Kate Brown, Trish Caston, Lyndsay Cumberland, Eric Dawson, James Denney, Melanie Freeman, Dave Haffly, Jessica Harpole, Dr. Dan Heimmermann, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, Nora Miller, Shelley Moss, Nicole Patrick, Danny Patton, Anika Perkins, Dr. Tom Richardson, Dr. Monica Riley, Andrea Stevens, Dr. Scott Tollison, and Ken Widner.

Dr. Jim Borsig called the meeting to order.

Minutes -

Following a motion by Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith and a second by Melanie Freeman, the minutes from the June 2013 meeting were approved.

University Update –

Dr. Borsig said the IHL system is down \$63 million in state appropriations since the beginning of the recession in 2009, but the forecast for the future of higher education looks some better with state revenues being more positive and state appropriations being up slightly this year. This slight increase basically covered the increased employer match on state retirement. Dr. Borsig feels we have saturated the use of increasing tuition to cover increasing costs and past reductions in state appropriations. We will now need to rely on more creatively planning for the future. Going into this strategic planning process, we are also working through SACS and QEP, enrollment management work, results of the 2012 Campus Dialogue sessions, and a new IHL funding formula that is performance driven. Today's students (and students of the future) are very different from students of the past. They will expect a fully wired campus and to be able to do everything online. Dr. Borsig feels the university has about five years to create an environment to attract and retain these students. While we may have more revenue because of the funding formula, we will need to decide how we will invest it. It will be important to invest in things that will improve the classroom experience for our students, such as more smart classrooms. MUW will be fortunate to be flat in enrollment this fall. There are less high school students. The community colleges enrollments were down last year, so there will be less transfer students. There are also less elite students. Adult learners may be the student market of the future. The bottom line is we need to spend more strategically to become more efficient. Dr. Borsig said there will be a good deal of change to come, but he feels very positive about MUW's future.

SACS Update –

Dr. Tom Richardson reported that we are beginning to get feedback from our SACS consultants, the Armacosts. They have suggestions for improvements that will be time-consuming, but the changes so far are all doable. A big part for the university – institutional effectiveness – will get feedback next. This will be critical for the university. The pieces on faculty qualifications and finances also will be important. The MUW SACS team may be calling on members of the university community to help with information with a quick turnaround.

Dr. Richardson also noted that Dr. Mark Bean, the new QEP director, is working on the QEP document. It is coming along nicely. The implementation for the QEP is next fall after the accreditation process is complete.

Noel-Levitz Update –

Shelley Moss said our Noel-Levitz consultants will be on campus next week for both the enrollment management piece and the recruitment and retention piece. She encouraged everyone to participate in the meetings.

Faculty Senate Update -

No report

Staff Council Update -

Trish Caston said Staff Council has elected new members and tried to get a good representation of the campus. Dr. Borsig will meet with Staff Council on August 7.

SGA Update –

No report.