Meeting with Student Representatives


Absent: Jean Flahive, Susan Gendron, Krisandra Horn, and Paul Mitchell.

Trustee Fournier called the meeting to order.

Rebecca Dyer, UM
- Provided follow-up on topics discussed from previous meetings:
  - Visiting home high schools
    - The student representatives have discovered that these programs exist at many schools but the programs need to be expanded to a broader base of students.
    - Ms. Rosa Redonnett, Executive Director for Student Affairs, is working with the Admission Offices at each campus to assure these programs exist at all seven universities.
  - Course Cycling/Offering Availability
    - Ms. Redonnett has spoken with the Student Records Offices on each campus about integrating this information into the upcoming course offering information.
  - Technology Committee
    - The Student Representatives requested representation on the Technology Committee and nominated Nathan Grant, graduate student at USM.

Julie-Ann Scott, UM, Graduate Student
- Portal
  - The Student Representatives would like to compile a survey to be completed by students from across the System answering questions about what models and features they prefer as well as their opinion on costs for the service. The Student Representatives are willing to help solicit students to complete the survey and data gathering to assist the Technology Committee.
    - Trustee McCarthy indicated that student involvement will be part of the process, particularly in beta testing. The Technology Committee would likely consult the Student Affairs Committee on the best method for broad student involvement. At this point in time, the Technology Committee has not discussed the survey concept or content. Currently the Committee is being assisted by a consultant to look at technological alternatives.
**Rebecca Dyer, UM**

- Advocacy at the Maine Legislature
  - Student representatives will get to know their local Legislators so when issues arise they will have forged strong professional relationships with them.
  - The Student Representatives will work with Mr. John Lisnik, Assistant to the Chancellor for Governmental Relations, to assist with advocacy at the Legislature.
  - They will also work with Mr. Lisnik on the Student Trustee appointment.
    - Mr. Lisnik commented that the Governor’s Office is working on the Student Trustee appointment as well as the other Trustee appointments in the hope to have them confirmed by the end of this legislative session.

**Dustin Ward, USM**

- Investigation of System Funding at USM
  - Dustin Ward raised the need for financial transparency for USM students so they can ask better questions. The USM students want to assist in finding answers to the university’s fiscal problems but they need clarity to understand what the financial information that has been presented means. The lack of understanding translates into fear and there is a need to calm the fears of the students.
    - President Botman commented that the USM students have been very helpful by asking good questions and the campus is working on a communication that will be sent this week to the faculty, students and staff. In January and February campus meetings are planned for faculty, students, and staff. One meeting will be a full day session and the second meeting will be a day and a half session. The meetings will focus on USM strengths to ensure these areas are resourced adequately and the results from the meetings will assist with the organizational decisions. In addition, the faculty are meeting to discuss departmental collaboration and changes.

**Cynthia Nesbitt, UMA**

- The discussion of Distance Education is critical and the majority of the classes she is taking through Distance Education at UMA. She has had very positive experiences from her Distance Education classes.

Trustee Dowe commended the Student Representatives commenting on how well prepared they were for this meeting which made the discussions informative and productive.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Wiltbank, Clerk