Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting

Present: Committee Members: Marjorie Medd, Chair pro tem (at USM); Samuel Collins (at UMPI), James Erwin (at USM), Michelle Hood (by phone), Paul Nelson (at USM), Bonnie Newson, and Karl Turner (at USM). Chancellor: James Page. Presidents: David Flanagan (at USM).

Faculty Representatives: Kim-Anne Perkins (at UMPI) and Robert Rice (by phone). Student Representatives: Jaclyn Jacobson (at USM) and Alex Greenlee (at USM). Staff: Tracy Bigney (at USM), Rosa Redonnett, Mark Schmelz, and Rebecca Wyke (at USM). Others Present: Joseph McDonnell (at USM).

Committee Members Absent: Gregory Johnson, and Paul Mitchell.

Trustee Medd, Chair pro tem called the meeting to order.

USM Program Eliminations. USM President David Flanagan and USM Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Joseph McDonnell reviewed the USM Program Eliminations. President Flanagan explained that accessibility and affordability at USM are being severely challenged due to the $16 million structural gap. These program eliminations totaling $6 million are just one step in the process to close the structural gap. Provost McDonnell explained the process for the proposed program eliminations at USM as well as aligning USM as a metropolitan university.

Following University of Maine System policy as outlined in the Administrative Procedures Manual, section 305.1, the University of Southern Maine has identified the following two programs for elimination.
  o Master of Science in Applied Medical Sciences
  o Bachelor of Arts in French

The Committee was briefed on the preliminary proposals. The preliminary proposals are in the process of being vetted by the relevant campus faculty and administrative entities, with a response expected by October 17, 2014. The final proposals are anticipated to be complete by October 20. The final proposals will be distributed to the Committee and will be an action item at the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for October 22, 2014.

The Committee engaged in a lengthy discussion on the USM rationale and strategy for the program eliminations.

Following the Academic & Student Affairs Committee, the Committee members listened to comments from the guests present at the meeting.

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for
Tracy B. Bigney, Clerk of the Board