AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

1. NAME OF ITEM: Dialogue with Faculty and Student Representatives

2. INITIATED BY: Gregory Johnson, Chair

3. BOARD INFORMATION: X BOARD ACTION:

4. BACKGROUND:

On February 27 the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs (AASA) Committee had a preliminary discussion of how to advance the depth and quality of dialogue between the Faculty and Student Representatives and the Board of Trustees, working through the AASA committee. Chair Collins requested that discussions with Faculty and Student Representatives be focused at the AASA Committee where there is more time for thoughtful dialogue than the schedule of a Board meeting allows.

The discussion included the following major points and outcomes.

- Professor Rice said that faculty welcome the opportunity to engage more with the AASA Committee but asked that there also continue to be interaction with the full Board at each meeting, at least for a year while we assess this new forum for dialogue.
- President Hess noted that chairs of the faculty assemblies/senates have been coordinating and conducting surveys that the Committee is likely to hear about.
- President Kalikow stated that the Faculty and Student Reps and Committee should find issues to work on—identify best practices, explore different viewpoints, engage in joint problem solving—having expected outcomes.
- Vice Chancellor Hunter suggested defining a plan of work, identifying key issues and people to work on the issues with deadlines and outputs.
- Ms. Jacobson noted the need to look at scheduling issues so that student representatives are able to participate. Class schedules prevented some students from attending the meeting.

Hearing the discussion Chair Johnson made the following requests:

- asked Faculty and Student Representatives to send input on the draft paper that was in the 2/27/14 Committee agenda (“Strengthening the Quality of Dialogue”; attached) to Tracy Bigney and Rosa Redonnett to be distributed to the full group;
- asked Rosa Redonnett and Tracy Bigney to look into scheduling issues;
• asked Faculty and Student Representatives to come to the next Committee meeting with a draft work plan for the academic year 2014-2015.

At the April 23 meeting of the Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee, the committee will continue this discussion with three goals:

1. Develop a work plan for the Committee and Faculty and Student Representatives for the coming 2014-15 academic year that will set a course for substantive discussions of major issues facing UMS.

2. Discuss and clarify the forums for Faculty and Student Representatives. How will discussions at the Academic and Student Affairs Committee “trickle up” to the Board of Trustees?

3. Discuss implications for UMS of “Peril and Promise in a New Age” by George Mehaffy (attached). Dr. Mehaffy quotes Nathan Harden: “In fifty years, if not much sooner, half of the roughly 4,500 colleges and universities now operating in the United States will have ceased to exist.”
   • What does that mean?
   • What does that mean for UMS?

April 14, 2014