Student Affairs Council Minutes  
April 9, 2009  
Conference Call

Members Present
Donna Fishbeck, BSC  
Hal Haynes, DSU  
Katie Nettell, LRSC  
Ray Gerszewski, MaSU  
Richard Jenkins, MiSU  
Paula Berg, MiSU-B  
Georgia Pullen, NDSCS  
Prakash Mathew, NDSU  
Robert Boyd, UND  
Hugh Long, WSC  
Michel Hillman, NDUS  
Jenny Marboe, NDSA

Others Present
Rebecca Duben-Kalash, NDUS  
Deanne Sperling, NDSU

Hillman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Additions to the agenda are as follows:
- You Tube Video
- Mental Health Task Force
  - Chair
  - New Timeline

There were no corrections or additions to the draft minutes from the March 12, 2009, council meeting. The minutes were, by consensus, approved as presented.

Updates:
Academic Affairs Council – AAC had a face-to-face meeting on Tuesday, April 4. Hillman said that a number of academic requests were discussed and moved forward. There was also discussion on policy and procedure issues. AAC discussed what appropriate board involvement should be in the academic approval process. Hillman said that they are trying to find a balance of appropriate information to send to the board.

Chancellor’s Cabinet – Hillman said that the cabinet has been having weekly conference calls; however, the last two meetings were canceled due to no committee hearings to comment on. He said that the committees will be acting on bills soon.

State Board of Higher Education – At the Monday board meeting, they identified two priorities that came out of the cabinet discussion. The first one was to maintain student affordability and the second was equity funding in the budget. Hillman said that he received an email regarding the House Appropriations Committee actions. They did reduce the increase in student financial aid and moved it into student affordability. There are still $3 million new dollars going into financial aid; however, this is much less than the governor recommended.
Hillman said that the NDSA hosted a luncheon, news conference and a two hour interaction in the Great Hall. The event was very successful and a number of legislators participated. Hillman said that the news conference reinforced points of student affordability.

Legislative – Haynes asked about HB 1348 and where it was at. Hillman said that at the last cabinet meeting, they talked about coordinated testimony on HB 1348 and he understood that that went fairly well. The status report as of April 6 is that the Senate reported back a “do not pass” on the bill.

Plans for 2009 Professional Development Workshop
Fishbeck said that the conference is five weeks away. She asked the council to really encourage registration on their campuses. Hillman asked if she wanted council members to register; Fishbeck said yes. She said that on the second day of the workshop during lunch there would be an opportunity for the Mental Health Task Force to give an update. Also, at 1:30 on day two, the campuses will have a chance to share some of their best practices related to mental health.

Fishbeck said that we are hoping for 100 participants but can handle up to 150. The 100 participants’ fees would take care of the budget and cost.

Hillman said that the Mental Health Task Force has yet to meet. He suggested that they might want to meet on May 18 in the morning while SAC is meeting. Hillman asked Fishbeck if BSC would be able to accommodate them; Fishbeck said this would not be a problem and to just let her know.

Mental Health Task Force
Hillman said that the membership of the task force was not completed until last week. A list of members was sent out with the SAC mailing. Hillman said that he did exchange emails with Boyd to suggest Bill Burns as being a possible chair for the task force. Boyd said that he will contact Burns and ask him.

Hillman said that we can’t expect the task force to have recommendations for the May 18-19 meeting, especially with the late start. Boyd said that the task force could share topics or issues that they plan to investigate and ask for the assistance of SAC to make contacts or materials that could be helpful. Mathews hoped that they would have at least one or two conference meetings prior to the May 18-19 workshop to show us which direction they are going.

You Tube Video
Hillman said that Karin Walton had sent an email with a link to a YouTube video titled “I Luv College.” Boyd said that he had the opportunity to view it and talk to people on his staff. He said that one of his staff said that while listening to the radio station, they heard it twice in a short period of time. The unfortunate thing is the Greek letters in the video along with sexual scenes and the use of alcohol. Boyd said that he doubts if many families would find this video funny. Mathews said that most college students would find nothing wrong with this video and that the campuses would be making a big deal out of nothing. Marboe said that this video will probably see its prime shortly and then something else will come along and this will go away. She said that by making a big deal of this, it will only bring more attention to it. She will work with student groups to be aware of it but feels that the best thing is to not draw any more attention to it than it needs.
**Development of Learning Communities**

Boyd said that UND is helping to kick off an initiative on the health and wellness connection with the academic retention of students. There will be special programs that will build around this.

Boyd said that they did explore Student Voice but chose to go with Ed Adventures. Both are excellent. Student Voice is more student affairs oriented and can cost anywhere from $15,000-$25,000; this is a lot of money. Our campuses struggle to find the dollars; however, it is a good buy. If the money can be found it would be worth it. Boyd suggested asking the vendor if they would combine the smaller campuses and divide the cost accordingly.

Mathews talked about the sophomore experience on their campus. He said that NDSU has been moving forward with the learning outcomes charge to all the departments within the divisions. NDSU is asking for every department to have at least one learning outcome. Mathews said that the staff struggle with this every year. NDSU has contracted with Student Voice. They provide leadership and specialize specifically in student affairs. NDSU will see the results at the end of the year.

Fishbeck said that this past year BSC reorganized job descriptions and will be holding a retreat this summer introducing learning outcomes.

Hillman asked the council if they wanted to pursue Boyd’s idea. Boyd offered to contact Ed Adventures and see if all the small schools could be considered one and if they would divide the $10,000 - $15,000 cost accordingly. He asked the council if this would this be affordable; the cost would be $2,000 a year per campus. Boyd said that if that’s not affordable than there is no need for him to pursue this. Hillman asked if there were any comments or thoughts. Prakash said that they are 100% satisfied with Student Voice. Hillman said that he would like to put it on the next agenda. He would like to have actual dollars from vendors. Hillman asked Mathews and Boyd to check with the vendors. Perhaps they can negotiate a budget discount. Hillman said the other option would be to put into a budget request to have the cabinet and board consider.

**NDSA Report**

Marboe said that the NDSA had a really great meeting in Medora; DSU hosted it. She said that the new executive officers have taking over. One of the main issues that was discussed at the meeting was mental health. Marboe said that she feels very strongly about mental health issues and that she is excited to work on the task force. She is currently trying to get each school to set two goals to accomplish with their students and work with them for next semester. Hillman asked who the new NDSA leadership members were. Marboe said Ken Story is the president and Andrew Brown is vice president.

**Future Meetings**

Hillman asked what the council thought about the SAC retreat being held in Walhalla on June 10-11. He said the council would have dinner on the evening of June 10 and meet through lunch on June 11. There were no objections to this so Hillman asked Duben-Kalash to make arrangements in Walhalla.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30.