



STAFF ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

Tuesday, February 13th 2018

9:00 am, Mammel Hall Auditorium

Present Members:

Deb Brozak, Barb Harvey, Sarah Kole (V.P.), Steve Lendt, Melissa Malmberg, Beau Malnack, Katie Martikainen (S), Patti Martin, Lindsey Parde, Laura Sherwin, Jim Sinclair, Steve Summers, Jill Sutton, Kevin Thibodeau, Linda Value, Thomas Walker (P), Suzanne Withem (T)

Absent Members:

Melissa Boseman, Anthony Flott (P.P.), Kim Harter, Megan Nelson (P.E.), Jill Russell, Matt Shields, Jennifer Walcutt

Call to Order (9:02am)

Brief President's Report - Thomas Walker

SAC officially will have \$20,000 budget for the 2018-2019 FY. Thomas gave a recap of the Chancellor's update yesterday. It was noted that there has been a reversal in the reallocation. Thomas wants to follow up with the Chancellor specifically about this as he had stated in the past he would not go back on his support for UNO to have more allocated. Acknowledging Gold is responsible both to UNMC and UNO, but in this case he voted toward supporting UNMC, even though that means UNO will continue to be given less of a share than what they deserve based on production.

Thomas then walked through the process for the day. Passed out worksheet with questions to complete individually, then as a small group, and finally the large group would discuss.

Treasurer's Report - Suzanne Withem

Current balance of \$1,096.78 (no change)

Individual Work (9:05am-9:12am)

Small Group Work (9:12am-9:37am)

- There were 4 small groups, of about 4 members each. Groups discussed their ideas of 7 prompts.

Large Group Discussion (9:37am-10:12am)

- As a large group, we went through the prompts. Thomas kept some notes as well (displayed on the projector so all could see as we went along). Highlights include:
 1. Advocating/Engaging/Inform
 - a. SAC needs to stay a positive force, especially during the current climate. Discussion revolved in ways to expand engagement (can we include part-time employees, non-eligible, and Graduate Assistants?). Agreed that when moving forward in action, we should ask ourselves if the

event/task/message aligns with the three pillars of Inform, Advocate, and Engage. If not, it is best left for a different group or a different time.

2. Discussion about engagement - the idea of Quarterly "lunch and learns" was a popular thought. Especially with a little extra in the budget, SAC could perhaps provide lunch, or at least drinks and snacks at these meetings. Could engage staff and encourage cross-campus networking.
 - a. Perhaps hosting a similar event to the picnic that occurs when we return from Holiday Break - in January the week before classes start?
 - b. Steve Summers noted most rooms are capable of webcasting, so this offering could reach more staff (who are not able to leave the office)
 - c. Better engagement at orientation for new employees. Barb noted she does a weekly report of new hires. Perhaps HR could send us that list each week/month/quarter. SAC can follow up with a more personal email, welcoming them and letting them know about SAC. We do have about 5 minutes at the orientation session, but there is a lot of information being presented that day.
 - d. "Up the fun" - perhaps coordinating a Sand Volleyball team? There is/was bowling league. What else can we do to support outside of work engagement?
 - e. As we will be bringing in an increase in membership soon, are there other committees on campus that SAC could represent on?
3. Fundraising and service:
 - a. Discussion was about more short, "one-off" events, less full-year projects.
 - b. The question was asked about online fundraising? We voted in a scholarship last year; it will take a while to gain funds, but should be available in the next 5 years. This has been set up with the Foundation. Perhaps there is more we can do there.
 - c. How else can we raise funds more "efficiently"? (ie payroll deduction, "round up" at bookstore purchases...)
 - d. Is there something we can tie our name/brand to? (ie Dodgeball or a fun run?)
 - e. It was also noted that the \$20,000 budget is secured for 2018-2019, but will not find out until next month if these will be permanent funds.
4. Communications
 - a. More presence in MavDaily, or a newsletter.
 - b. Linda suggested having a specified day/week/month to have the same message on the electronic signs throughout all buildings. This could help with awareness.
 - c. Discussion if there was a way to have an "engaged" listing. Something in between being a member of SAC, but also not an unengaged employee. We should still strive to communicate with all, but if we know there is a more targeted audience out there, we should utilize that.
5. Professional Development
 - a. We need to better understand what the staff want (ie strengthen skills in the Microsoft suite)

