Faculty Senate Meeting  
April 5th, 2012

Members Present:

Keith Anderson, Christine Beckman, Marie Brown, Jim Giles, Keith Heffner, David John, Sally Kroelinger, Charles Lewis, Maria Martell, Jeff Messer, Janice Reilly, C.J. Robb, & Phil Waclawski

DCA Liaison:

Nora Reyes

Guest:

Mr. Jeffrey Darbut, MCC Vice President of Administrative Services,

Mr. Darbut noted that all budgeting endeavors and initiatives relate to MCC’s mission, vision, and values in addition to aligning fully with MCC’s strategic priorities

Mr. Darbut similarly noted a recent, evolving focus on Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

Mr. Darbut emphasized several primary budgeting challenges including declining enrollment, utilization of course fees, percentage of residential faculty engaged in teaching, absence of salary increases, replacement of outdated information technology, updating aging grounds and facilities, and a relative lack of capital funds for major projects

Mr. Darbut noted projected enrollment declines for current and upcoming fiscal years and a corresponding, anticipated fiscal 2011 / 2012 $1.2 million reduction in funding in addition to a potential $700,000 reduction for fiscal 2012 / 2013

Mr. Darbut subsequently provided an overview of the general operating fund budget. He noted that the projected fiscal 2012 / 2013 general operating fund budget is approximately $94,000,000

Mr. Darbut shared an employment profile that included, for example, the number of faculty and non-faculty employees

Mr. Darbut reviewed Fund 250 course fee balances across departments and noted a current balance of approximately $2.57 million
Mr. Darbut indicated that the college manages two capital appropriation accounts. He reviewed the projects associated with Fund 710, the first of the two aformentioned capital appropriation accounts

He similarly noted available funds of approximately $32.8 million dollars within Fund 730, the second of the two capital appropriation accounts

Mr. Darbut briefly discussed a 5-year investment of approximately $1.7 million in order to support the evolving Informed Improvement Project

I. General

A) Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m.

B) Approval of the Agenda -

   Motion to Approve was Advanced

   Motion was Unanimously Approved

C) Approval of Minutes -

   Motion to Approve March 1st, 2012 Minutes was Advanced

   Motion was Unanimously Approved with Two Abstentions

II. Old Business

A) Student Grievance Process - Update

   No Update

B) “W” Entered by Non-Faculty - Update: Department Chair Association’s (DCA’s) Best Practices Work

   President Heffner asked DCA Liaison Reyes to address recent work by the DCA

   DCA Liaison Reyes noted DCA’s desire to codify Best Practices specific to this issue and emphasized the importance of being cognizant of existing college policies. It was noted, for example, that certain administrative personnel have the authority to assign a “W” to a student who does not meet course payment obligations

   DCA’s intent to engage departmental faculty in a dialogue addressing best practices specific to withdrawal was similarly emphasized
DCA Liaison Reyes also noted an evolving approach to facilitating student course re-enrollment and a corresponding anticipation that the approach will be piloted during Summer 2012.

C) Faculty Association (FA) Dues - Budget Items: Motion as to How Faculty Executive Council (FEC) Reps Should Vote

President Heffner requested a motion to direct MCC’s FEC representatives as to how to vote with respect to a proposed Faculty Association dues increase.

Motion was advanced to request that the FEC membership vote against a dues increase of more than $25.

A senator suggested that MCC’S FEC representatives seek information regarding a previously-discussed multi-year plan for dues increases and bring such information to Faculty Senate for subsequent communication to faculty.

Initial Motion was Not Carried.

Subsequent motion was advanced to authorize FEC representatives not to approve any dues increase until senators are presented with specific options for the aforementioned dues increase and have the corresponding opportunity to solicit feedback from constituents.

Subsequent Motion was Approved.

D) Article XI - Senate Election of Officers - Update?

No update.

III. New Business

A) Seamless Student Experience (SSE) -

President Heffner noted that there was a presentation schedule sent to all employees to review progress on the SSE initiatives to-date.

Senate was encouraged to participate if they could.

B) FA Dues Rebates: History - MCC Senate Typical Annual Expenses - What Do We Do Now?

President Heffner noted that an extended conversation regarding not
only a potential dues rebate but also representative, annual Senate revenues and expenses should be conducted in order to provide a comprehensive understanding of those issues

The proposed conversation could address, for example, potential future Faculty Senate expenditures

Multiple senators indicated support for a dues rebate if a FA dues increase is approved in the near future

It was suggested and agreed that the proposed 2012 - 2013 Faculty Senate budget be disseminated to senators prior to the next Faculty Senate meeting

IV. Information / Discussion

A) Committees and Consideration for RM Participation from Their Site -

President Heffner noted a colleague’s suggestion that Senate consider possible approaches to enabling Red Mountain campus faculty to participate in meetings from the Red Mountain campus

B) Chuck Vawter’s Work and FA Follow-Up -

President Heffner noted that Mr. Vawter declined to address the Faculty Association with respect to his recent work

President Heffner noted a recent meeting between Faculty Association leadership and district budget officials. President Heffner reported that Association leadership was informed that there is a significant contingency fund

President Heffner thus reminded Senate that Mr. Vawter’s work was presented to and addressed by the aforementioned budget officials

C) Meet-&-Confer Update and Discussion -

President Heffner noted that ongoing discussions are focused on specific RFP language addressing, for example, online / hybrid courses and corresponding faculty accountability for such courses

President Heffner informed Senate that faculty can expect a new Meet-&-Confer communiqué in the near future
D) CAR - Capital Appropriation Request -

Tabled for future discussion

President Heffner noted a productive recent collaboration between Senate leadership and DCA leadership in which the collective leadership advocated for specific clarification of the policies specific to and process attendant to capital appropriations

E) MCC Class Schedule on Home Website Link -

President Heffner noted multiple errors on the existing college Internet site regarding the college class schedule

He noted an upcoming meeting designed to address this issue

F) Zone Elections - 2012 Even-Numbered Zones up for Election

Zone 2 - Business and CIS
Zone 4 - Reading, Music, and World Languages
Zone 6 - Art, Speech Communications, and Theatre
Zone 8 - Physical Science
Zone 10 - Mathematics and CSC
Zone 12 - Library, Counseling, CTL, and Service Learning
RM At-Large

Zone 3: Philosophy, Religious Studies, and Psychology & Zone 7: Social and Cultural Science, Administration of Justice Studies, and Education (still not filled)

President Heffner noted four (4) self-nominations and emphasized that he has recently extended the deadline for self-nomination

V. Reports

A) Department Chair Association Liaison Report - Nora Reyes

DCA Liaison Reyes noted that the DCA voted to financially support both a scholarship and the planting of a tree in remembrance of recently deceased faculty
B) President’s Report - Keith Heffner

1) President Heffner noted a recent President’s Cabinet discussion in which a district-level review of academic programs was outlined

President Heffner correspondingly indicated the importance of faculty participation in any such discussion

C) President-Elect’s Report - Sally Kroelinger

President-Elect Kroelinger noted that the Distinguished Faculty Award (DFA) committee should have a recommendation in the near future

D) Recording Secretary’s Report - Jeff Messer

Recording Secretary Messer indicated he would disseminate the approved March 1st, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes for posting to the MCC Faculty Senate Internet site in addition to providing an initial draft of the current April 5th, 2012 Meeting Minutes prior to the Senate’s April 19th, 2012 meeting

E) Business Secretary’s Report - Marie Brown

Business Secretary Brown asked if Faculty Senate is interested in securing a Faculty Senate T-shirt

F) Treasurer’s Report - Phil Waclawski

Treasurer Waclawski indicated that he will disseminate both a current budget update and a proposed 2012 - 2013 budget in the very near future

G) Past-President’s Report - Keith Anderson

No report

H) MCCFA Legislative Committee Report - Erin Rawson

No report

I) MCCFF Report - Janice Reilly

Senator Reilly noted the cancellation of the Bowlathon and the recent donation of $1,000 for the Foundation Emergency Fund
J) Zone and At-Large Reports and Significant Happenings / Issues -

One senator noted ongoing financial aid issues and corresponding drops from courses

Another senator noted concern with respect to the stability of both the SIS and HRMS systems and a corresponding intent to interact with the MCC VPIT

A senator noted that library computer users will need to access all such computers via MEID as of May 29th, 2012

A senator reviewed recent near-accidents that reflected inappropriate speeding by drivers

One senator emphasized discouragement consequent to the recent proliferation of MCC management-level employment postings

A senator shared constituent concerns with respect to a perceived lack of communication concerning issues such as salary increases, COLA’s, etc.

President Heffner noted the multiple, periodic communications from Meet-&-Confer leadership

K) Faculty Senate Committees: Faculty Staffing, Faculty Travel, Honors Program, Advisory Committee, Student Outcomes, CTL Advisory, Distance Education, Faculty Social,

Faculty Staffing will begin to rank faculty requests later this week

VI. Review of Items to Report-Out to Zones / Issues Bin –

No specific items were discussed for report-out

VII. Announcements / Good Of The Order / Adjournment -

Adjournment at 4:36 p.m.