Meeting with Faculty Representatives


Absent: Kurt Adams, Stephen Bowen and Bonnie Newsom

Trustee Collins welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order, and the faculty introduced themselves.

Robert Rice, UMaine
- He welcomed the new Trustees.
- He stated the faculty appreciated the discussions on academic quality.
- Each of the campuses competes at different levels and with different accreditation standards. He encouraged the Board to look at these differences before homogenizing programs and courses and consult the faculty before decisions are made.
- He feels the Trustees would benefit by visiting the campuses to talk to the president, faculty, administration & students to ask questions and gain the campus perspective.
- The faculty is the first line of communication to the students and they are willing to assist if there is anything they can do to help the Board.

Kim-Anne Perkins, UMPI
- She encouraged the Board to strengthening the relationship between students and business community. The Noel Levitz data supports the importance in the relationship between the faculty and students and it is a key factor that will impact retention. It is also important to support the role of faculty outside of the class room with relationships with business leaders, internships, jobs or special projects.
- In the process of transition of the how the Board would like to operation there could be an opportunity created for an annual ½ day session for the faculty and students to meet with the board during a retreat setting. The Board’s time with the faculty and student representatives has been sacrificed with the financial constraints and it would benefit everyone to have more time for dialogue.

Lois-Ann Kuntz, UMM
- She commented that the faculty representatives had a dialogue on clarifying their role as faculty representatives and developing a job description.

Trustee Hood responded to Professor Rice’s comment to seek out the faculty’s assistance by suggesting that during their Faculty Senate meetings, the faculty analysis the Making Maine Work report and the connectivity between how higher education is contributing to economic needs and growth of the State. Trustee Wishcamper also responded to Professor Rice’s comment about how the
faculty can help by raising the following two issues and suggested that faculty get back to the Board with ideas:

- How can faculty be more engaged in recruitment?
- How can faculty be more involved in mentoring?

Professor Rice commented that the UMaine Faculty Senate Executive Committee did discuss some parts of the report. Professor Perkins stated the UMPI College of Professional Programs Department did discuss the report. Professor Kuntz commented that she will make the suggestion to the UMM Faculty Senate.

Professor Bates stated that UMA’s largest program is Mental Health and Human Services and currently there are jobs available in Maine for those graduates. Also UMA’s Dental Program has a very high success rate in placing graduates into jobs.

Trustee Turner stated with the use of Facebook, a portal, blackboard, etc., it would be significant to develop a mechanism to measure the importance of the connection between students and faculty. He feels the System could improve its recruitment yield by more engagement between the faculty and the students on a one to one basis.

Adjournment

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Witbank, Clerk