Meeting with Faculty Representatives


Trustee Collins welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Robert Rice, UMaine

- Thanked President Schott and the staff at UMPI for hosting the board meeting.
- Performance Based Funding
  - Raised a concern that no base line has been assigned and the weighted values could be problematic for the campuses; therefore, before the formulae are established the campuses need to look at the impact of the weighted value and the formulae.
  - In the interest of transparency this should be fully vetted before implementation.
  - When implementation begins, he requested it be done judicially and with care because it could destabilize a number of things.
    - Vice Chancellor Rebecca Wyke responded that the vetting component is already built into the process. There is also a website available (www.thinkmissionexcellence.maine.edu) with information on the process.
  - He commented that the website allowed for comments and feedback; however, the comments cannot be viewed by everyone – it only allows for input. He asked if the comments can be transparent as well.
    - Mr. David Stevens, Executive Director of Organizational Effectiveness, stated that both the input and comments will be available to be viewed on the website.
- Board of Trustees Retreat
  - He commented that he understands the Board Retreat went well and wondered if the Board would consider other Retreats with a sub-set of faculty to discuss the issues and gain additional buy-in from the campuses. He asked if the Board is considering having one or two more Retreats before finalizing some of these big initiatives.
  - Trustee Collins commented that it is the intent of the Board to involve all of the constituents as much as possible and by the evidence of the campus visits which is to encourage input from all the participants. The Board respects the opinions of everyone involved.

Ray Albert, UMFK

- Credit Transfer initiative
He raised concerns from the faculty that the project has many challenges and they want to be sure that the faculty have adequate time to be involved in the process. The current timeline appears to be rushed.

- Trustee Johnson commented that the process is a two way conversation and campus visits have been scheduled for all campuses. The Review Team is working on the implementation component of the project with the faculty. Faculty participation will be included and encouraged in a symposium in the spring. The project is currently focused on the intra-system component and there will be complete transparency for the duration of the project.

**Chris Bates, UMA**

- He inquired about the future financial mitigation to the campuses and asked if the UMS would use some of the reserves to assist in the classrooms to help the campuses bridge the shortfall in tuition funds. Failing the use of reserves, could the UMS provide the campuses some type of paradigm so the campuses can bridge the shortfall in funding effectively and not impact the classrooms.

  - Vice Chancellor Wyke responded that the purpose of the mitigation was to provide the campuses time to adjust and the Trustees have provided plenty of advance notice. So the intention is to work individually as campuses and together as a System to figure out how to close the gap. She continued by stating that this doesn’t mean that the System isn’t there as a safety net because the purpose the System has always been to served for the campuses. Going forward the gap needs to be addressed on a long term basis. There are always different interpretations of the reserves and the majority of the reserves reside on the campuses.

**Kim-Ann Perkins, UMPI**

- She inquired about the status of electronic board books

  - Chancellor Page commented that this project is a high priority and he hopes that some type of electronic version of the Board Book will be available for the January Board meeting.

- Performance based funding

  - Will any of the data allow the UMS to look at the success or strengths of some of the alternative education programs that have been offered in the State of Maine. There could be benefit for the UMS to looking those partnerships because the success rate of students from these programs continuing on to higher education is quite great.

    - Chancellor Page commented that the Performance Based funding is outcomes based and these are important programs to be aware of.

    - Vice Chancellor Wyke stated that with Performance Based Outcomes the UMS will be defining the outcomes and each campus has the autonomy to determine the best way to meet the outcomes.

Adjournment.

Ellen Doughty for
J. Kelley Witbank, Clerk