Present: Rich Connell, Deb Zak, Jack Geller, Andrew Svec, Sue Brorson, Michelle Christopherson, Tom Baldwin, Chancellor Wood, Tricia Sanders, Peter Phaiah, Chris Winjum, Amber Schultz, Ron Del Vecchio, Jeff Sperling, Dan Svadarsky

Guest(s):

In these minutes: BOR Update, Retention and Graduation, Homecoming Schedule, Chancellor Update, Member Updates

New Business:

BOR Update – Chancellor Wood
Chancellor Wood shared a few highlights from the Regents meetings.
• The University Accountability Report was presented and highlights from each campus were discussed.
• President Kaler’s Biennial Budget Presentation:
  o Funding increase to support a 0% tuition increase
  o Funding increase if University meets Performance Markers
  o State support for research in (1) Robotics, (2) Environmental Studies, (3) Brain Disorders, (4) Global Food
  o Tax credit for individuals who pay tuition and for donations to Higher Education
• Vice President Robert Jones announced that he is leaving the University of Minnesota to become President of the University at Albany in New York. This is significant as Vice President Jones had the coordinate campuses under his portfolio and he has been a strong advocate for UMC as well as the other campuses.

Retention and Graduation Rates Discussion – Amber Schultz, Chancellor Wood
Chancellor Wood explained that he wants to look at retention and graduation rates on campus and what can be done to improve them. He asked Amber to give an update on what the retention committee has been working on. Amber shared background information on the committee and mentioned some of the recent initiatives of that group such as: peer connections program, majors fair, advisor handbook, work with transfer and undecided students, etc. Amber also showed the draft Retention Committee Workplan (see attached). This topic will be revisited.

Homecoming Schedule – Stephanie Helgeson, Peter Phaiah
Stephanie and Peter went over the schedule of events for the next few days encouraging participation at as many events as possible. Chancellor Wood echo’d their request stating that these are important events to build on the small, close-knit campus environment which we promote, and to connect with alumni and other supporters.
Chancellor Update

- Vice Chancellor Position – Chancellor Wood encouraged committee member input. If they had insight to share regarding the Vice Chancellor position to please setup a meeting with him, either individually or in small groups, to provide input regarding the position. He has visited with some individuals about this topic.

In an attempt to be transparent in this process, he also explained ideas that have surfaced in the early discussions. He discussed a desire to focus the portfolio of the Vice Chancellor position on the academic aspects. Two suggestions are to have Student Affairs and the Position of Institutional Research Director report directly to the Chancellor. In addition it has been suggested to move Admissions and The Academic Assistance Center to report directly to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs. Input on these suggestions and other options are welcome.

‘Pre-Posted’ Member Updates

Michelle Christopherson - Center for Adult Learning

- Achieve More; Junior Achievement (JA) and College and Career Preparation 101 launches Thursday, Sept. 27th in the CHS Commons. *If you have 60 minutes to spare, please consider arriving, any Thursday, 11am - noon.* College and Career Preparation 101 will better prepare students for careers while JA acts as a bridge to career exploration. The unique value to students is hearing stories from the community volunteers about their experiences entering into the world of work. We want to bolster the local workforce and contribute to economic growth in the region, please consider an hour of your time on a Thursday. Janessa DeBoer: deboe053@umn.edu or 281.8673

- College in the High School good faith registration concluded Sept. 16th. 940+ CIHS in processing.

- Governor’s Workforce Development Council, round one Skills@Work session held Sept. 12th in TRF. Regional partners identified factors and conditions that contribute to the regions workforce/skill gap. Next regional session in early October to define statewide initiatives/policies that may assist in closing that gap.

Deb Zak - Extension

- Wednesday, October 17 UMC will be hosting a Natural Play Space Workshop. See attached flyer.

Kim Gillette – International Programs

- The International Programs at the University of Minnesota Crookston, International Student & Scholar Services office (UMTC), Center for Teaching and Learning, and the Global Programs and Strategies Alliance are pleased to offer two trainings on intercultural communication and internationalizing the classroom with emphasis on integrating international students into the classroom. The workshops will be held on Wednesday, September 26th in Bede C/D/E of the Sargeant Student Center.

These workshops are free, however, we do ask that you preregister for them.

8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - **Intercultural Communication Workshop.** Bede C/D/E
Have you ever wondered... why do "they" say yes when "they" really mean no? Does speaking louder help someone understand? Why do "they" always come talk to me in groups? Why don't "they" get involved? This workshop will focus on understanding culture and how that impacts communication and communication style.
*Appropriate for: staff and faculty (student leaders may also join if there is enough space.)*

3:00 - 4:30 p.m. - **Instructional Strategies for Integrating International Students into the Curriculum Workshop.** Bede C/D/E.
UMC has a large population of international students in comparison to other schools. While we have worked at making this a welcoming, diverse place, there are still questions that arise about how to integrate these students more into our classes. Questions regarding classroom management (should I/can I allow extra time for a test? How do I get them not to cheat?) to engaging students into the class (how do I get them to participate more? how can I encourage collaboration across cultures/countries?) continue to arise. This workshop is designed to engage faculty in exploring instructional strategies for integrating international students in the classroom. 

Appropriate for: all faculty (including t, tt, p&a, adjunct). Staff may join if there is space.

**Member Updates**

**Amber Schultz – Admissions**
- October 24 there will be a Career Fair at the Alerus Center. UMC has a large booth that Amber needs help filling, she is asking academic Departments to help her by coming up with interactive ideas that could be at the booth.

**Tom Baldwin – Academic Affairs**
- UROP and UROC opportunities are available. UROP’s are due October 8 and UROC on October 22.
- Arlene Carney will be visiting campus next Thursday (9/27).

**Rich Connell – Facilities**
- The Heat has been turned on for campus.

**Steph Helgeson – Athletics**
- Friday, September 28 from 4:30 – 7 there will be a fundraiser for the equestrian team at UTOC with food, horse rides, activities for kids.

**Jack Geller – Liberal Arts and Education**
- UMC Associate Professor Mark Huglen authored a Public Speaking textbook and was assisted by UMC Associate Professor Kevin Thompson.

**Andrew Svec - Communications**
- October 24 at 7pm in Kiehle Auditorium will be a “Meet the Candidates” forum. This is a chance to meet individuals running for local and state offices and learn a little about them.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Winjum
Retention Committee WorkPlan for 2012-2013

The full Retention Committee will meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 12:30 pm for the 2012-2013?

Retention Committee Purpose:

The University of Minnesota, Crookston Retention Committee is charged with providing leadership for the campus retention initiatives for on campus students. The committee will identify, prioritize, and implement strategies and tasks that will dramatically improve retention rates as we work towards 85% first to second year retention rates. Strategies and tasks required to improve retention will focus on data driven quality improvement. The committee will incorporate the campus community into their efforts.

Retention Committee Initiatives, Sub-Committees, and sub-committee membership. The Committees below highlighted in yellow are in need of membership and will meet regularly and will report back to the overall retention committee on a monthly or semi monthly basis.

**Transfer Student Retention/AQIP Retention Project:** This group would like to organize a transfer student and advisor meet and greet social early in the Fall semester to better connect transfer students to their academic majors and academic clubs. The Transfer Student Retention group would like to explore and attempt to resolve the remediation that commonly occurs for Transfer students coming in that are eligible to register for 3000 level classes in their major but are not prepared for the content. The focus of the AQIP portion of this project is:

1. ID NAS Characteristics
2. Review the NAS student survey – searching for themes and common areas that need attention
3. Plan and implement a separate registration experience for transfer students
4. Develop and publish a website specifically for admitted transfer students
5. Plan, Implement, and Evaluate a transfer student Orientation event

Kim Cousins, Alysa Tulibaski or Amber Schultz, and Kristi Walker, Eyad Youssef may be willing to do some analysis of qualitative survey results, Lisa Samuelson and Sherry Just were also recommended for membership.

**Undecided Student Retention:** The Admissions and Enrollment Management Office will be inviting matriculated Undecided students to participate in a planning/coaching program with us this Fall. We hope to have about 10-30 participants and we will be surveying to determine level of decidedness, facilitating use of resources on campus, and requiring participation in our Peer Connections program. CAP Project

Amber Schultz, Alysa Tulibaski, and Erica White

**Gen Ed 1000 Committee:** This committee will explore implementing Gen Ed 1000 as a required course for all new entering on campus students. This committee will need to document financial, scheduling,
and academic requirement barriers to requiring this course and make recommendations for overcoming these obstacles. This committee may also need to review the current curriculum to suggest possible changes that would make the class more attractive to all new entering on campus first year students such as taking the class with like majors and/or an honors section.

Jim Schaar suggested chair, as well as Sharon Stewart, and faculty reps from each department

**Involvement Committee:** (The Weekend Programming Committee will take their work further and try to get more Athletes and International Students involved in diverse Clubs and Organizations across campus. This group will also continue researching more places on and off campus for UMC to congregate for fun and studying.) It was determined that this group is already active and effective but may need to continue work on the improving the marketing and promotions of their events.

Lisa Samuelson

**Retention Management Software Exploration:** (Many campuses are now implementing specific Software programs that allow them to better track students through the college going process and automate communication with them depending on where they are in the process.) There will not be a committee focused on this.... Amber will continue to follow up with Jeff Sperling on the progress of Sales Force and Tom Mulvaney’s project with Lisa Loegering

Amber Schultz

**Improving the new Student Advising, Registration, and Orientation Experience:** (The Retention Committee is very concerned about the quality of the new student Advising, Registration, and Orientation Experience. We want to be involved in whatever way we can in improving the involvement of faculty and staff in this experience as well as shaping the content.) This will also not be a committee at this time. Major changes were made this year- tons of compliments were received, but we still need to evaluate the effectiveness of our changes and determine additional improvements....no need for a committee at this time.

Alysa Tulibaski

**Student Services Experience:** (The Retention Committee will explore the student services experience and ensure that students needs are being met and expectations exceeded in terms of their experiences interacting with Admissions, Financial Aid, Business Office, Registrars, Parking, Food Service, etc.) Peter and Amber will continue to explore this together- there will be no committee at this time.
Homecoming Schedule

Thursday

• 12 p.m. PowderPuff Football Game on Campus Mall

Friday

• Athletic Hall of Fame/Outstanding Alumni Banquet 6:00 p.m. Social/6:30 Dinner, Program to Follow, $20 per person contact Rose to RSVP at 8439

• 7:00 p.m. UMC Volleyball vs. Wayne State College

• 9:00 p.m. – Bonfire

Saturday

• 10:30 Parade

• 11:00 UMC Soccer vs. Augustana

• 11:00 Tailgating w/ Live Band Four Wheel Drive

• 1:00 Football vs. Southwest Minnesota State University
  
  o Post Game Social is at IC Muggs following the football game

• 5:00 Volleyball vs. Augustana

Sunday

• 1:00 Soccer vs. Wayne State
Natural Play Space in your Community: An Interactive Workshop

Save the Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2012
University of Minnesota- Crookston

Please join us for a day of discussion and presentations on creating natural playspaces. Wherever you and your community are at in the process, this workshop will have something for you!

In the morning, we will offer plenary presentations by U of M staff and local partners that will cover the planning, installation, and programming aspects of natural playspaces with examples of what has been done in the region. The afternoon will consist of break-out discussions that will address exactly what is needed to move your project forward.

$15 registration fee includes lunch. For more info contact the Extension Regional Center at 218-281-8696 or mleblanc@umn.edu

Also, check out the Children and Nature in Northwest Minnesota Facebook page!