Present: Chancellor Wood, Barbara Keinath, Chris Winjum, Dan Svedarsky, Dave Danforth, Bill Peterson, Jeff Sperling, Michelle Christopherson, Soo-Yin Lim-Thompson, Ron Del Vecchio, Sue Brorson, Peter Phaiah, Andrew Svec, Carola Thorson, Corby Kemmer, John Loegering, Kim Gillette, Tricia Sanders, Les Johnson

Guest(s):

In these minutes: Green Revolving Fund, Admissions & Enrollment Update, Faculty & Staff Wellness Center Letter Writing Campaign, Reappointment Letters for Faculty & Instructional Staff, Family Day/Community Day/Prospective Student Day, Chancellor’s Update

Green Revolving Fund – Dan Svedarsky
Dan provided some general information on UMC energy use, both historical and present, and recent or current projects being done on campus to reduce energy use. Dan provided a handout (see attached) explaining how UMD uses their “Green Revolving Fund” and he proposes that UMC establish such a fund. Dan encouraged the committee to share any energy saving ideas they may have with Dave Danforth or himself so they can explore the feasibility.

Admissions & Enrollment Update – Carola Thorson, Michelle Christopherson
Compared to last year at this time, NHS admits are up very slightly (2 to be exact), and NAS are up 124 applications and 93 admits. Admissions is working through admits and following up with some whose material is not complete, or there are questions about. CAL in collaboration with Admissions will be sending letters to all CIHS students about UMC from a former CIHS student who now attends UMC. There are 814 online, degree seeking students at UMC this Spring, CAL is working with summer semester students at this time. There will be a high graduating class this year for both on campus and online students (the most online has had yet), that coupled with a smaller freshman on sight class this year makes for lower overall enrollment. This freshman class will be a factor pulling down overall enrollment until they graduate unless we can offset that with very high new enrollment.

Faculty & Staff Wellness Center Letter Writing Campaign – Andrew Svec
Andrew encouraged all to write letters of support for the UMC Wellness Center and handed out suggestions (see attached) with the key legislator’s capitol addresses to help with this. Andrew will also be emailing these suggestions to all the UMC faculty and staff, but encouraged everyone to discuss this in their departments as well.

Reappointment Letters for Faculty & Instructional Staff – Barbara Keinath
Barbara informed the committee that reappointment letters for faculty & instructional staff would be going out earlier this year. Barbara wanted to get these out earlier than they were done in the past. Other non-faculty/non-instructional staff letters will still continue to go out in late April or early May as they always have. Barbara asked that this information gets brought back and shared within departments so there isn't any confusion.

Family Day/Community Day/Prospective Student Day – Chancellor Wood
Chancellor Wood revisited an idea that he introduced to the Executive Committee in the fall. That was to have a day where we could showcase the campus and all our academic departments. Some thoughts were this would work well during homecoming, but there are
concerns about how early in the year that is and an already very busy time. Another potential
day was to hold this in January on the same day as Ag Arama. Both these options will be
explored further with input from CSA and this item will be brought back to a future Executive
Committee meeting.

Member Updates
None

Posted Member Updates
None

Respectfully submitted by Chris Winjum
For consideration: A Green Revolving Fund for UMC

Important to the financial efficiency and sustainability of a university campus is to design, retrofit, and operate facilities in such manner that we use only what we need of our material resources, especially energy, and conscientiously plan for the future. Along with the knowledge that good things are happening, the University community needs visible evidence like solar and wind technology applications, conversion of waste cooking oil to biodiesel, production of locally grown food, etc.

Green Revolving Funds provide such a mechanism for reinvesting $ from energy savings and rebates into projects. From grant funds we are currently evaluating opportunities for solar applications on campus; but we need $ to install “low-hanging fruit” technology. $1,500 in seed money was granted from the NW Regional Sustainable Development Partnership to start such a fund. Otter Tail Power Company recently issued a $21,599.97 Commercial Design Assistance (CDA) incentive payment to UMC for collaborative work on energy efficiency in Heritage Hall. They also provided a $28,000 rebate for the purchase of 10,000 bulbs that will reduce our electrical use by 70,000 watts (40 cents per watt). Together this could provide a starter green fund of $51,099.97 to finance more sustainable campus projects that show. A photovoltaic street light was recently installed in the Nature Nook.

UMD launched such an effort in 2011 and is described as follows:

**UMD Green Revolving Fund** [http://www.d.umn.edu/sustain/commitment/greenfund.html](http://www.d.umn.edu/sustain/commitment/greenfund.html)

The UMD Green Revolving Fund was established to invest in sustainable projects at UMD. Projects are intended to contribute to efforts to save energy and become a more sustainable campus, along with providing long-term financial savings to the University of Minnesota. Savings are paid back into the fund, building equity, and helping to fund future projects.

In 2011, UMD Facilities Management provided $100,000 seed money from utility savings to support the Green Revolving Fund. Energy rebates obtained by UMD Facilities Management are also provided back to the Fund, to serve campus and invest in future energy savings. UMD Economics student Stacy Gerths was instrumental in getting the fund established, through a Sustainable Development Research Opportunity Project.

**What are the goals of the Fund?**

The Green Revolving Fund’s primary goals are to reduce the campus carbon footprint, help UMD save money, help educate the campus community about sustainability issues, and to help increase interdisciplinary connections throughout campus. Proposals are evaluated by the Office of Sustainability and by the Sustainability Committee.
Who can apply?

Any UMD student, staff or faculty member may apply for Green Revolving Funds. Student applications require a faculty or departmental advisor, to help in managing fund appropriation.

How are proposals evaluated?

Awards are based on how the projects meet the Green Fund criteria and the current needs of the University. Applications are reviewed by both the UMD Sustainability Committee and UMD Facilities Management. An application should address one or more of the criteria below:

- Fits within the mission and goals of the University of Minnesota and the [UMD Strategic Plan](#)
- Pay back their costs within 10 years
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Reduce energy and water use
- Reduce pollutants
- Improve operations
- Provide a positive impact for the local community
- Support student learning
- Support student engagement/awareness of sustainability-related issues
Greetings,

We are asking for your time and assistance in an effort to ensure that UMC’s Wellness Center is in the final Capital Budget for the State of Minnesota. As you may know, Governor Mark Dayton included the UMC Wellness Center on his recent list of Capital Budget Recommendations, and it will now be considered in the Senate and the House. This past fall we were busy making our case with Minnesota State Senators and State Representatives who visited campus, and we want to reach out to them again to make sure they haven’t forgotten about the critical need for our project. Therefore, the University needs your help! Please consider taking a few minutes to write an individual letter to the leaders listed below and/or others to let them know why the UMC Wellness Center is important and needs to be funded.

We have outlined the process here and have provided a few letter writing tips:

- Letters can be handwritten (legibly) or typed on stationary, computer paper or cards. No postcards please.
- In your letter:
  - Address the Legislator personally in the greeting as “Dear Senator XXX”
  - Be brief (no more than one page)
  - Identify the issue early in the letter (e.g., I hope you will support the Capitol request for the Wellness Center at the University of Minnesota Crookston.)
  - Discuss only one issue in the letter (in this case, the Wellness Center)
  - Identify yourself and why this is an important issue for you – your individual story, position, experience, and observations are examples
  - Offer to be available to answer any questions that they may have
  - Thank them for their public service
  - Personally sign each letter

Letters should be sent to:

Senator LeRoy Stumpf
Chair, Capital Investment Committee
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Capitol, Room 122
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Senator Terri Bonoff
Chair, Higher Education and Workforce Development
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Capitol, Room 325
St. Paul, MN 55155-1606

Representative Debra Kiel
337 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Alice Hausman
Chair, Capital Investment Committee
453 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Gene Pelowski Jr
Chair, Higher Education Finance and Policy
491 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
St. Paul, MN 55155

(use the same letter for each individual, just remember to change the name/address of course)

If you have questions about the Wellness Center, additional details can be found online at
http://govrelations.umn.edu/assets/pdf/state/2014/2014CampusWellnessCenter.pdf

We thank you in advance for your assistance in this important matter!