



'Jacket Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2023

Meeting began at 2:00 p.m.

Introduction of New Members:

Chancellor Hicswa welcomed Dr. Amber West Martin as Director of the Academic Support Center.

Legislative Session Update:

Director of University Communications and Marketing Maureen Brakke provided the update on the ongoing state legislative session. The Montana legislature is considering House Bill 197, which would alter the authority of the Board of Regents to govern Montana Universities, as well as Bill 31 to grant universities academic brewers' licenses. The proposed state employee pay plan is in committee in the Senate, after passing through the House of Representatives. Senate hearings confirmed Regent Jeff Southworth and Student Regent Norris Blossom.

Legislative Videoconferences:

Chancellor Hicswa welcomed attendance to the Legislative Videoconferences hosted by the Billings Chamber of Commerce on the MSUB campus. They are held every other Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00 in the Liberal Arts building.

'Jacket Giving Day 101:

MSUB Foundation Assistant Athletic Director for External Relations Nick Schmidt showed the website and fundraising tools the Foundation will use for this year's 'Jacket Giving Day. The annual day is March 23rd but the website goes live March 1st.

Donor In Kind Verification:

Foundation CEO Krista Montague Explained why forms, even for gift or service donations are helpful in tracking necessary information and obeying governing statutes. The form is live and on the website via the intranet.

New Scholarship Processes:

Vice Chancellor Kim Hayworth presented on upcoming changes in the process for awarding scholarships. Applications for scholarships have been low, and scholarships are going unawarded. The new processes should also reduce the burden on selection committees and ensure that rules are followed. Discussion followed.

Some faculty members questioned why they had not been consulted about these procedural changes and asked for some updates on specific scholarships. Dr. Hayworth deferred to Foundation Chief Financial Officer, Jon Egeland, for any questions she was unable to immediately answer.

Professional Development “Framework for Understanding Poverty”:

Sara Whittle, Director of Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search, and Gabrielle Eklund Rowley, Executive Director of American Jobs for America’s Youth, will offer a two-day workshop March 7th and 8th on Dr. Ruby Payne’s book, *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*, and related research.

Alumni House:

Chancellor Hicswa announced that Alumni House has been used for different things over the years. Going forward, it will be available for rent as a residence. Please contact Michael Swavely with potential renters.

Friends of the Children Rental:

A community organization called Friends of the Children has rented the house just south of the Native American Achievement Center. We should expect to see more people coming and going than with a residential rental.

Yellowjacket Spirit Fridays Kick-off Events:

Paula Highlander, Director of Human Resources, announced that Yellowjacket Spirit celebrations will begin for each Friday, and the kick off event is planned for March. At the same event, the increased retention rate will be celebrated. The goal of 76.42% was exceeded.

Service Sting Survey:

Kathleen Thatcher, Director of Accreditation and Assessment, and Parker Scott, Coordinator for the Center for Engagement, are gathering data about faculty and staff community service that will be reported for strategic planning and included in accreditation reports.

Faculty Excellence Awards February 23, 2023, 5:30 reception and 6:00 dinner

Meeting ended at 3:30 p.m.