

The Chancellor's Cabinet advises the Chancellor by providing guidance and support for the university's highest priorities and governance processes.

In Attendance:

Stefani Hicswa, Chancellor; Krista Montague, CEO of MSUB Foundation & Alumni; Paula Highlander, Director of Human Resources; Suzette Nynas, Academic Senate Chair; Lee Vartanian, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; Michael Bazemore, Athletic Director; Kathy Kotecki, Dean of Student Engagement; Dan Carter, Director of University Communications and Marketing; Natalie Preston, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor; Kathleen Thatcher, Director of Assessment and Accreditation

Absent:

Kim Hayworth, Vice Chancellor for Student Access and Success; Leslie Weldon, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

Did You Know?

On the Navigate Intake Survey, nearly 30% of the fall 2025 undergraduate students indicated they plan to work 20-40+ hours a week.

INFORMATION

Chancellor Hicswa announced that she forwarded a <u>fact sheet</u> she received about changes to the Department of Education.

Chancellor Hicswa announced that Leslie Weldon emailed information about a driving course that can be taken by all employees who drive as part of university business. If a minimum of 5% employees complete one of two courses by June, the university will qualify for an RMTD auto premium discount.

SHOUT-OUTS

Dan Carter gave a shout out to the group working to bring the website into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards that will begin in April 2026.

Chancellor Hicswa gave a shout out to the faculty and staff work on predictive scheduling.

Mike Bazemore gave a shout out to Krista Montague and her team for hosting a successful Alumni Basketball Game and breakfast event.

Lee Vartanian gave the team in University Communications and Marketing a shout out for their new social media marketing.

Chancellor Hicswa gave a shout out to Athletics for the annual Halloween Auction, which earned record revenue this year.

Krista Montague gave a shout out to Kim Hayworth and the team in Financial Aid. Tonight, the Foundation is hosting the annual Celebration of Scholarships for donors and students who have been awarded scholarships, and it is all possible because of great collaboration between Kim's office, the Foundation, and Financial Aid.

Paula Highlander gave a shout out to Kathleen Thatcher and her work with the Wellness Champions.

Predictive Scheduling

Suzette Nynas reported on a recent meeting of the Course Schedule/Course Rotation workgroup. Predictive course schedules were created in 2021 as part of a process to utilize best practices and improve students' ability to plan their path to degree completion. The group's suggested next steps are to revisit the course schedules created in 2021, improve the accuracy of the course catalog, and add a process to Academic Program Review (APR) requiring the regular audit of course rotations. Suzette provided an overview of some of the existing challenges to completing this work. Provost Vartanian added he is developing training that will help department chairs use data in new and collaborative ways for predictive scheduling.

NWCCU Report

Kathleen Thatcher reported that MSUB received the peer evaluation report from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) following the Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness (EIE) Year 7 visit in October. Kathleen stated that the findings in the report are not yet finalized, or specific to any department, as the evaluation was a review of the university as a whole. Chancellor Hicswa added that the report is constructive and positive overall. Kathleen explained that the final findings and next steps will be issued following the university's presentation to the NWCCU Commission in January.

Operational Plan Priority

In response to one of the goals of the Operational Plan, Cabinet members discussed their efforts to improve onboarding and employee training, and develop mid-level leadership training opportunities.

Cabinet members discussed the Operational Plan goal of Fortifying Synergies with MSU.

DISCUSSION

Next is Now Campaign

Krista Montague shared the finished case statements that are being presented in meetings with major donors as part of the Next is Now Campaign. Personalized proposals are being developed for potential donors.

Krista reviewed the priorities for the campaign's goal of \$27 million: scholarships, the Sculpture and Ceramics Studio, and program excellence. Krista reiterated that the Foundation works with donors to help them give in ways meaningful to them, and the importance of campus participation in giving.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Holiday Lighting Ceremony will be on Thursday, December 4 at 5:00 p.m. on the south steps of the administration building.

The campus holiday party will be on December 11 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Glacier Room.

UPDATES (Reprinted as submitted)

Mike Bazemore, Athletic Director

- Women's Basketball Yellowjacket Classic Tournament Nov. 21 22
 - o Friday (11/21) vs. Jamestown @ 7pm
 - o Saturday (11/22) vs. Adams State @ 2pm
- Men's Basketball vs. Rocky (11/24) @ 7pm
- Women's Basketball vs. Rocky (11/25) @ 7pm

Kathy Kotecki, Dean of Student Engagement

Student Health Services:

-Thriving Together Prevention Education Training – As of Nov. 13th there are 207 students who have a hold on their account. Sydney is doing outreach to all students to encourage completion of the training which will lift the hold and allow them to register for Spring Classes. She is also working with depts to connect with students identified within their area (Housing, NAAC, Athletics, International Studies, etc.) and they are also assisting with this outreach.

-Food Drive: SHS has been overwhelmed by the positive response from the Campus community with the promotion of the food drive. They have received an incredible amount of donations of food items from so many individuals and departments.

Housing:

-The Housing staff is currently conducting their annual quality of life survey with all residence hall students. The feedback is used to make important improvements within the residence halls, both cosmetically but also to support their sense of belonging and wellbeing.

Kim Hayworth, Vice Chancellor for Student Access and Success

ENROLLMENT:

Thank you to everyone who helped with Fall Preview Day on October 30th! The engagement by faculty and staff was outstanding!

Spring Orientation is scheduled for January 9th.

Ruffalo-Noel Levitz FA Consultant, Ann Allen's Higher Education Enrollment Landscape presentation slides are not yet available due to some minor reporting errors. Slide deck should be available before Thanksgiving and will be shared with JLT.

MILITARY AND VETERANS SUCCESS CENTER:

Thanksgiving Potluck will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 11-12:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to bring a dish to share.

NATIVE AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT CENTER:

Elder-in-Residence Programming

Visit the NAAC Elder-in-Residence webpage for more information and schedule.

Nov. 17-22 Lindwood Tall Bull

• Monday, Nov. 17, 3:00 PM – Presentation open to all- The Way We Remember: Northern Cheyenne Storytelling and Cultural History

INSTITUTIONAL INNOVATION PROJECT:

MSUB's Institutional Innovation Project (IIP) proposal titled, "Process Reimagine and Redesign" was submitted to OCHE on Monday, November 10th.