

AHC FACULTY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

April 18, 2014

Minutes of the Meeting

[In these minutes: Strategic Planning Discussion with Vice President for Research Brian Herman, Input/Priorities for Information Technology Governance Process, Agenda Items for Meetings with Dr. Jackson, April 17 Third Thursday]

These minutes reflect discussion and debate at a meeting of a committee of the University of Minnesota Senate; none of the comments, conclusions, or actions reported in these minutes reflect the views of, nor are they binding on, the Senate, the Administration, or the Board of Regents.

Present: Kathleen Krichbaum, (chair pro tem), Paul Bohjanen, John Connett, Les Drewes, Sue Berry for Robert Kratzke, Sandra Myers, Ned Patterson, Wendy St. Peter

Regrets: Robert Kratzke

Guests: Vice President for Research Brian Herman; Bernie Gulachek, associate vice president, Office of Information Technology; Susan Strubel, associate chief information officer, Office of Information Technology

I). Professor Krichbaum, serving as chair pro tem, convened the meeting, welcomed those present and called for a round of introductions.

II). Professor Krichbaum welcomed Vice President for Research Brian Herman who had been invited to talk with the committee about a number of topics. Vice President Herman began by sharing information about the strategic planning process that kicked off in May 2013. Through this process, the Office of the Vice President for Research interfaced with over 4,000 people using a variety of different channels/venues. Collectively, the feedback that was gathered during these interactions was analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively, and resulted in the identification of four fundamental strategic planning cornerstones, each with corresponding goals. The strategic plan vision and four cornerstones include:

1. Enhance research excellence.
2. Advance transdisciplinary partnerships.
3. Accelerate transfer of know for the public good.
4. Promote culture of serendipity.

Now that the data has been compiled, specific action plans and accountability metrics are being developed. Once the plans are refined, every effort will be made to align the University budget with the action plans. A senior executive steering committee made up faculty, administrators and a few deans has been convened and is in the process of finalizing the membership of the four action plan work groups. The plan is to announce who will be serving on each of these work groups by later next week. Each work group

will have an AHC lead and a non-AHC lead to ensure good cross-fertilization of the groups. They are also being asked to complete their work by the end of this summer. The research strategic plan, noted Vice President Herman, is a systemwide plan. He added that the Provost's Office is concurrently working on a Twin Cities strategic plan, which is looking at aspirational goals from a 30,000 foot perspective and will focus on the grand challenges facing the institution. This plan also expected to be completed by the end of the summer. The Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) and the Provost's Office are working collaboratively to align their strategic plans. In Vice President Herman's opinion, the goals, vision and aspirational nature for the strategic plans are all good, but the challenge will be to figure out how to align the vision of the plan with the actual reality of how the University operates.

Moving on, Vice President Herman provided information on MnDRIVE, which was passed in the last biennial legislative session. This legislation allocated \$18 million of recurring funding into the University for investment in four areas 1) supporting robotics, sensors and advanced manufacturing; 2) securing the global food supply; 3) advancing industry and conserving the environment and 4) advancing discoveries and treatments for brain conditions. A MnDRIVE strategic advisory group has been convened and this group is made up of people from industry as well as faculty and deans to develop a process for soliciting input and ideas and making funding decisions. Vice President Herman then took a few minutes to provide information about how funds have been allocated/spent to date and information on the funds that have yet to be allocated.

Next, Vice President Herman spent a few minutes talking about the Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA), which is up for renewal in about a year. In preparation for the renewal process, he reported that Dr. Bruce Blazar has been meeting with a large contingent of external advisors around every aspect of the CTSA. He added that a critically important aspect of the CTSA renewal will be to identify a new leader for the Institute for Health Informatics in the AHC. A lot of work remains to be done in preparation for the CTSA renewal.

Finally, Vice President Herman announced that the OVPR opened the Office of University Economic Development (<http://www.research.umn.edu/business/#.U2kRc8e0brU>) earlier this year. This was done for a couple reasons:

- Better connect the University with the external community.
- Make the University more accessible to industry. There has been frustration on the part of industry that the University is difficult to work with and hard to navigate. The Office of University Economic Development will be the front door to the University for economic development opportunities.

So far, this office has been extremely well received by the community. With that said, Vice President Herman concluded his remarks and solicited members' questions and comments, which included:

- It will be critically important for the CTSA to be renewed. There are a number of CTSA's across the country that have not been renewed. This is an extremely competitive award. Community-based research will continue to be a big thrust for CTSA renewal, which is an area that many institutions do not perform well in.
- MnDRIVE communications with Duluth faculty need to be improved/enhanced. Frances Lawrenz, associate vice president for research, stated Vice President Herman, is the person Duluth faculty should contact to get more information. There have been a number of conversations between the OVPR and Chancellor Black and Executive Vice Chancellor Schokker. The OVPR has worked hard to communicate as broadly as possible about MnDRIVE and the office is happy to provide any additional information that people need and/or answer any questions.
- Have all the MnDRIVE funds been allocated? Vice President Herman stated that there is still money available for this fiscal year and reminded members that there will also be a new influx of dollars coming in for next fiscal year. If faculty members feel they have good research ideas that align with the MnDRIVE initiative then they should submit these ideas. The goal is to help as many people as possible and invest the dollars in good ideas so the University can share its success stories with the legislature.
- Regarding the Office of University Economic Development, can faculty contact this office in order to connect with industry? Vice President Herman stated that this office facilitates connections both ways, industry with the University and the University/faculty with industry.
- What does the legislature think about MnDRIVE? Vice President Herman stated that he believes the legislature likes the idea of MnDRIVE and that they think it is a good concept. The legislature wants the money they have allocated to MnDRIVE to be put into action. In the current climate, MnDRIVE is a unique investment on the part of the State of Minnesota that is intended to bring industry and the expertise of the University together in targeted areas. He added that he believes the legislature's investment in MnDRIVE represents an area of distinction for the University of Minnesota and that it ought to be leveraged in ways that create opportunities for recruiting faculty.
- Who decided on the four MnDRIVE funding areas, the University or the legislature? Vice President Herman stated that it is his understanding that the four areas were decided upon by the University, but this decision was made before he arrived.
- The four areas seem to have limited substantive connection with the AHC and health care, aside from the neuroscience aspect and advancing discoveries and treatments for brain conditions. It will be important for the University to continue to build its AHC infrastructure and support AHC faculty.
- Are faculty from Duluth involved in the strategic planning process? There will be system campus involvement in the strategic planning process, stated Vice President Herman.
- A big issue for Duluth faculty is being able to connect to the research and meetings that take place on the Twin Cities campus. The AHC needs a new platform for communication with Duluth faculty. Vice President Herman stated that he is very supportive of anything that can be done to enhance communication

and collaboration. He admitted not having the ability to have a direct impact on how technology decisions are made, but wanted members to know that the Operational Excellence Committee has a plan to recommend and prioritize technology projects for President Kaler to consider.

- Would it be possible to spend MnDRIVE money on technology infrastructure enhancements and could the AHC FCC submit such a proposal to the OVPR? MnDRIVE money, stated Vice President Herman, is being spent on infrastructure, people, etc. Any investments, however, need to show a connection to the four cornerstone areas. He added that the OVPR is open to any suggestions and requests, but the proposal must articulate in a clear and concise way how the request connects to the MnDRIVE initiative.
- Please comment on the Ambulatory Care Center (ACC) and how it might fit into the OVPR's strategic plan. The ACC could create a real opportunity for faculty to engage in clinical research that involves outpatient care. To a degree, every patient can be looked at as research study. Vice President Herman stated that this is a good idea and he has spoken with Dr. Jackson about it. Having said that, the ACC design does not incorporate this kind of opportunity into the building. Hopefully, there will be opportunities to rethink this. The University needs to decide if it important for the institution as a whole to put a service in the ACC that would make it possible for patients who want to work with clinical researchers to receive care in the same building. If this group and/or other groups feel strongly about this idea, a letter or email should be sent to Dr. Jackson articulating this suggestion before it is too late.
- The suggestion was made to put kiosks in the ACC, which patients could use to express their interest in learning more about possible participation in clinical studies.
- It is critical for the goals of University of Minnesota Physicians (UMP), Fairview and the University of Minnesota be aligned. Vice President Herman stated that he believes the alignment between these three entities is quite good at this time. When it comes to paying for the ACC, however, all parties involved recognize that patient revenue will be critical. In the end, the bills need to be paid.

Professor Krichbaum thanked Vice President Herman for his time. She added that the committee would like to continue to explore the relationship between the overall administration of the University and the AHC as a whole, which includes six schools.

III). Professor Krichbaum welcomed Bernie Gulachek, associate vice president, and Susan Strubel, associate CIO, from the Office of Information Technology (OIT). In light of the time, Mr. Gulachek stated that rather than walking through the slides (distributed electronically after the meeting) that were prepared for this meeting that he and Ms. Strubel would prefer to hear members thoughts on what areas University technologists should focus their efforts in the upcoming year. To frame the discussion, he provided background information about last year's consultation process and mentioned some of the outcomes. Member input/feedback included:

- With faculty work sites becoming increasingly decentralized/scattered e.g., Biomedical Discovery District; ACC; University of Minnesota Riverside Campus, Fairview, it is more and more difficult to physically attend seminars and even engage with colleagues. While video conferencing is one option, it would be great to be able to access seminars, conferences, grand rounds, etc., via the Internet.
- Offering completely online courses is not possible due to technology limitations that restrict the number of students who can be connected at one time, e.g., GoToMeeting, Huddle. Technology that will allow faculty to connect with multiple students in various locations is long overdue.
- An insufficient number of classrooms are equipped with video technology to meet the demand. In addition, technology support and training for these rooms is lacking.
- Telemedicine is being limited by the lack of technology infrastructure at the University. With the right technology, telemedicine could be a revenue generator for the University.
- Classrooms lack basic instructions for how to use the technology installed there.
- Seminar rooms should be technologically equipped so Duluth faculty, for example, can participate in events held in these rooms. Resources are being wasted if only Twin Cities faculty are able to attend these events.
- Lecture capture resources need to be made more available.
- More needs to be done to create networking tools, spaces and forums in order to facilitate interprofessional research and teaching.
- Technology incompatibility is frequently blamed for connection problems with the system campuses (Duluth and Rochester). Given the current technology situation, it is frustrating for faculty to engage students who are at a distance.
- Multiple systems are problematic; there should be more consistency across the institution.
- Ownership of rooms creates problems for faculty in terms of knowing who is responsible for which rooms.
- All classrooms need to have the capability to connect to the Internet from all computers.
- The AHC is unique in terms of its need for collaborative tools.

Mr. Gulachek summarized the themes he heard from today's discussion into two major categories, mobility and collaborative tools. Ms. Strubel added that based on the feedback received today that she would predict that OIT would likely establish a formal committee of practice around the issues that were raised. This committee would be made up of IT staff, faculty, and students. Professor Krichbaum requested that Ms. Strubel send the community of practice meeting announcements to Renee Dempsey, Senate staff, and she will send out to AHC FCC members who will be asked to distribute to their respective faculty colleagues encouraging attendance.

Professor Krichbaum thanked Mr. Gulachek and Ms. Strubel for a good discussion concerning technology challenges in the AHC.

IV). Professor Krichbaum reported that the next scheduled AHC FCC meeting with Dr. Jackson is on May 6. Agenda items that were previously identified included:

- AHC FCC observations concerning AHC Student Consultative Committee (SCC).
- Information technology/connectivity issues, which are having an impact on the educational experience for system campus students (Duluth and Rochester) and also an impact on collaborative research opportunities.

Members also suggested the following items:

- Status of interim rural campus dean at UMD given the current rural campus dean has resigned as of June 30, 2014.
- Ideas/thoughts about how the AHC FCC can best work with the Office of the Vice President for Health Sciences to make the working relationship productive and mutually beneficial.
- Clinical/term faculty.
- Contingent faculty.
- Meet with Provost Hanson and hear about the status of the AHC constitutions and bylaws, AHC 7.12 statements and discuss promotion and tenure.

If members have other agenda item suggestions, Professor Krichbaum asked that they be sent to Ms. Dempsey.

V). Members spent the remaining couple minutes talking about the April 17 Third Thursday, which they agreed went very well. Professor Krichbaum thanked Professor Drewes for organizing the presenters from Duluth who did a great job sharing information about their research.

VI). Hearing no further business, Professor Krichbaum adjourned the meeting.

Renee Dempsey, University Senate