

AHC FCC  
March 9, 2005  
Minutes of the Meeting

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

PRESENT:

Kathie Krichbaum (chair), Lois Heller (via ITV), Ed Combe, Brian Isetts, Michael Georgieff, Marc Jenkins, and Peter Davies

ABSENT: John Himes

GUESTS:

Dan Feeney, Chair, AHC Finance & Planning Subcommittee; Dr. Barbara Brandt, Assistant Vice President, Academic Health Center Office of Education; Vickie Courtney, University Senate

In these minutes: [Discussion: Update on the work of the budget task force from Dan Feeney, chair, AHC F&P; information from Dr. Barbara Brandt, Assistant VP, AHC Office of Education, on faculty involvement in the “Leading Change” conference; discussion of mentoring program; review of committee charge; discussion of upcoming AHC FCC elections; update on the status of the appointment to fill open positions on the AHC F&P]

Professor Krichbaum called the meeting to order and introduced Dan Feeney, chair, AHC F&P. Professor Feeney gave an update on the work of the subcommittee, including the updated financial comparisons report, as well as information on budget models, benefit banding, direct charge models, and space costs. He also gave an update on the work of the budget task force, which presented a budget model to the Senate F&P Committee.

After Professor Feeney’s presentation, committee members asked several questions about how direct charges and benefit banding would impact different employee groups. One committee member voiced the opinion, which was echoed by several others, that the AHC F&P be mindful of all employee groups in its consideration of benefits, and to aim for an equitable system.

Next, Professor Krichbaum introduced Dr. Barbara Brandt, Assistant Vice President, AHC Office of Education, who spoke about the “Leading Change: Strategies for a Vital Health Professions Workforce”. This conference, sponsored by the AHC, will be held on April 14-15 in St. Paul.

Dr. Brandt said that when she first came here four years ago, she was alarmed at the seeming lack of a work force strategy plan, particularly in rural health. This is significant because of the many serious workforce issues across health professions in Minnesota. Since the AHC produces the health professionals for the state, and often the region, this is a matter of concern for the AHC.

The idea for the “Leading Change” started with the twelve community visits that Dr. Brandt, along with Jennifer Kurtz, Coordinator, AHC Office of Education, conducted last fall. At each visit, they invited community members (including representatives from economic development, business, health, MINSCU and other areas) to talk with them about their perceptions of the health professions work force. After the visits, the feedback Dr. Brandt received made it clear that community members are concerned about the connections between work force issues and economic development. Right now, Dr. Brandt is working with Dr. Cerra to

create a web site that addresses these issues.

The aim of the “Leading Change” conference is to bring people together to have a conversation about the need for workforce redesign. The AHC’s role in this issue is particularly important in relation to the University’s strategic positioning efforts and in discussing the value of the University to the state.

The conference will also look at the debt loads of health professional students, state demographic trends, and the achievement gap in Minnesota K-12 education. The goal is that this conference will not be a single event, but will be an enduring conversation.

Dr. Brandt encouraged the committee, and their colleagues, to attend the conference. She also encouraged committee members to think about these issues within their own colleges, and to forward any feedback to her.

Professor Krichbaum thanked Dr. Brandt for her presentation, and announced that the committee has talked about working on a teaching portfolio across schools. Dr. Brandt said she would like to support this committee on that charge.

Next, Professor Krichbaum directed the committee to review their charge. Vickie Courtney, University Senate Office, informed committee members that all Senate committees have been asked to review their committee charge at this time. She passed out copies of the AHC FCC’s charge that appears on the Senate web site, as well as sections from the AHC Constitution. She recommended that committee members review these documents, and then work at their next meeting to make any necessary changes. She also recommended that the web version be consistent with the constitution.

Professor Krichbaum then directed committee members to discuss the AHC FCC election. Vickie Courtney announced the names of committee members whose terms will be up as of June 30, 2005, and informed members that they are eligible to serve six consecutive years. The University Senate Office will draft a letter on behalf of the committee to each college; elections will be held through the faculty councils or consultative committees.

Next, the committee discussed their involvement in mentoring, one of the AHC strategic plan objectives. Professor Krichbaum urged committee members to think about the meaning of the University’s strategic positioning in relation to their unit’s strategic goals and objectives. Professor Heller noted that it is the charge of committee members to communicate the strategic plan to their units.

Professor Krichbaum stated that the committee should become more involved in issues relevant to the AHC. Professor Jenkins suggested that the committee focus their efforts on one issue that can achieve something on behalf of the faculty. The committee discussed teaching portfolios and mentoring as possible issues. Professor Krichbaum noted that the committee should be engaged as a group in their own strategic planning, so that this committee becomes a force that can bring faculty interests to the attention of the administration.

Professor Krichbaum then gave an update on the effort to fill open positions on the AHC F&P. Committee members suggested names of possible replacements; the University Senate Office will contact these faculty and work to replace the open positions.

Professor Krichbaum reminded committee members to review the committee charge for the next meeting. Agenda items for the next meeting include a discussion on the committee’s strategic plan, and a discussion on how to prioritize and focus the committee’s efforts.

Hearing no further business, Professor Krichbaum adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

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