**ASF State Meet and Confer
November 30th, 2012**

 Attendance: Adam Klepetar, Jill Quandt, Stephanie Bard, Barb Oertel, Rich Wheeler, Mike Sharp, Jim Anderson, Fran Umerski, Eduardo Gutierrez, Tracy Rahim, Shirley Murray, Linda Meidl, Jefferson Lee, Tim Price, Deb Bednarz, Craig Schoenecker, Doug Knowlton, Steven Rosenstone, Chris Dale, Betsy Thompson, Barbara Miller, Bill Brady, Tricia Budke,Bernie Omann, Mary Rothchild

Chancellor Rosenstone thanked Adam, Mike and Barb for agreeing to represent ASF on the work groups.

NeoGov Update:

ASF inquired about the process for giving suggestions for changes to NeoGov. While it is very efficient for search committee members to review files, there has been some feedback that the system is cumbersome for applicants. Anecdotally, the system believes that applicant appreciate the online system. Applicants can create one file and use it to apply at multiple at multiple agencies, so that is convenient for the candidates. In terms of access to diverse populations it is important to let applicants know that there is more than one avenue to apply for jobs, so they do not become discouraged if they experience troubles with the system. ASF pointed out that search committee members are able to see if applicants have applied for other positions, which seems problematic. HR was unaware of that issue and will follow up.

Grad Follow Up Survey:

While there seemed to be interest in reexamining the guidelines and procedures for the grad follow up survey, there seems to be a lack of momentum. There are many projects in the works, but a very small office that looks at these innovative projects. There is the larger issue of shared services and the need for support to move projects forward. Craig said they will be convening a work group to revisit the standards, his group has been gathering background information that will be helpful to that work group. For example, the U.S Ed Dept. has issued guidelines for gainful employment disclosure. The Chancellor recommended the Career Services groups form a group to look at how to move toward a more efficient way of doing this; however without the expertise of the shared services group there is hesitation to spend time and effort to suggest a direction that may not ultimately be feasible.

Center for Excellence

 For FY13 continued to fund the 4 Centers for Excellence at a reduced level. The initial expectation was that they would become self-sustaining by now; however, some continued financial support seemed appropriate at this point. The remainder of the original funding amount went toward 3 other center-like collaborations with colleges and universities focusing on energy, agriculture and transportation.

Access and Opportunity Funding:

There were 2 pots of money associated with Access and Opportunity—one for 3 centers and another that was allocated to all institutions based on a formula. Because the centers were not able to make great strides in developing best practices models that could be scaled to all institutions it was decided to phase out the funds over 2 years and 100% of those funds would be redistributed to the other pot of allocation that went to all institutions. Therefore, most institutions would have received an increase in the amount of Access and Opportunity funds this fiscal year, unless they had a center which was being phased out and therefore would experience an overall decrease in AOS funding ASF requested some specific information and numbers about the phase out and what that would mean.

Reaction to Budget Request:

Chancellor Rosenstone highlighted the foundation of the budget request noting that we have to turn the tide on the state investment in higher education and build a wider consensus for support of higher education. An effective message will focus on what the investment will produce. We cannot have another biennium without wage increases for the units that have gone 4 years with increases. We will match dollar for dollar from 3 sources: private sector internship equipment funds, efficiencies (from campus cooperative), and private fundraising. Additionally, we will seek changes to allow more grant funding for part time students. Tuition increases should be modest. The Initial response from legislature, governor, and MMB has been very positive.

PSEO and CIS expansion hope to increase the number of students coming in with some college credits. Currently we subsidize the cost of PSEO. We cannot continue to lose money on PSEO.

The lion share of the $44m in increased efficiencies would come from reducing procurement. Campus cooperative will result in additional savings—the campus presidents are currently looking at that proposal. 100% of the savings from changes in campus services will stay on campus 70% from procurement savings will go back to campus. 30% will go to pay back initial loan for startup costs. Once that is paid, 100% will go to campuses. In the long run there may be fewer jobs, but it would come from attrition and there would be input from the people involved.

ASF noted that the increased emphasis in internships will require infrastructure and support on campuses. The Chancellor acknowledged that, but noted that it is easier to ask the legislature for money that will go directly to students, so campuses will need to absorb the costs for this support. There is movement toward changing the policy to include non-credit internships.

PSEO—ASF noted that this PSEO population raises complex issues. Minimally the Chancellor believes it is essential to advocate for the PSEO costs to not be pushed to campuses.

Improving success and retention rates require not just technology, but human resources. ASF would like to be included in the discussion of how the progress will be measured. The Chancellor acknowledged that the types of students can vary widely on campuses and that needs to be factored in when measuring success. Also, some campuses have already made significant increase and it may be challenging for some to continue to increase at the same rate. Continual improvement is the goal.

Flexibility with the partnerships with 2 year institutions. ASF has concerns that sometimes our perspective is drowned out in the discussions regarding transfer. The emphasis on AA degrees can sometimes lead transfer students to believe they have met all the requirements to get into a certain program at a university, when they have not.

The System was awarded a $500,000 Lumina grant to work on transfer issues and reverse transfer.

Bill Brady is being asked to take on some additional responsibilities until Gary Janikowski’s
position is replaced. Therefore Betsy will be taking on more of the Labor Relations piece.

Legislative Update

It is essential that everyone is able to advocate for increased state funding for higher education. Please encourage ASF members to read and widely circulate the Legislative Updates emails from Melissa Fahning. The budget proposal was based on input from a very wide constituency, including the Itasca group. Continued efforts were made to reach out to legislators on both sides of the aisle. The Chancellor has met with the committee leadership. Governor’s proposal will come out in February. That is based on the November forecast, which comes out next week. There is reason to be optimistic that there will be a renewed interest in investing in higher ed. The story has to be told locally—it is not as effective to tell it on the system level.

Student Affairs Committee Meeting Cancellation

ASF suggested that even discussing the scope and charge and potential future agenda items would have been an appropriate reason for meeting. Improvements in communication are forthcoming to aid in the wider circulation of minutes, etc. SharePoint will be developed, so there is a question of whether taking the effort to develop web pages in the meantime is a good use of time and effort.

Next Meet and Confer Feb. 22nd 2013