ASF Meet & Confer
Minutes
April 12, 2012

Present: Judith Ramaley, Brett Ayers, Nancy Jannik, Kate Parsi, Jenny Lamberson, Jill Quandt, Nancy Peterson, Ken Janz, Connie Gores, Scott Ellinghuysen, Lori Reed

1. Travel card – Scott Ellinghuysen reported that they are still working through some issues with this program. Specifically, risk is being looked at. WSU is hit with about two fraud cases per month with credit cards. This is from the card numbers being compromised. They are trying to figure out a way to not have so many cards out there. They are looking into combining purchasing cards with travel cards. The goal will be to roll out the new program this summer to non-faculty and this fall to faculty. They are also revisiting travel procedures. For example they are looking at revising the policy that airfare cannot be booked by individuals. One of the reasons this is currently booked by the University is in order to prevent individuals from obtaining frequent flyer miles for University travel. Scott did mention that if any ASF members want to start using a travel card, we are able to obtain one now before the program is rolled out, if needed.

2. Unit determination – ASF stressed that we need to have discussions on unit determination as they come up and not after the fact. Mankato has a process in place that we need to look at. Lori Reed said HR should be able to have a new process wrapped up by summer. She acknowledged that there is some language on unit determination that we’ve met and some that we haven’t. ASF’s complaint is that we see notices come out and we don’t know what the situation is because we are not included in the conversations. Our only opportunity to question it is after the position has already gone through the process which is not the right time. Administration said it is sometimes challenging when both kinds of faculty are combined in one position. The Director of Clinical Practice in the Education Dept. is an example of a position we should have been involved in the discussions on. How do we work out as a community what is in our best interest? When positions open up is the time to have this conversation, not when personnel are already in place. Historically we’ve dealt with IFO non-teaching faculty. Position descriptions can look very similar. Expect to have more of these hybrid positions in the future.

3. International Services Assistant Director position - ASF questioned what the status of the position formerly held by CK Kwai is. ASF is also requesting position descriptions for the staff in the International Services Dept. and an organizational chart. Nancy Jannik said that she already has a request in for the same information. ASF reminded Administration that if the position is not going to be filled it needs to come to Meet & Confer.

4. Next Chapter Grants – Thirty-four proposals for Next Chapter grants were submitted for a total of $588,000. The maximum amount that will be awarded is $450,000 but may not be this high. HLC committee members volunteered to be on the HLC review team to review the proposals. They are currently reviewing and ranking the projects. Their recommendations will then go to Cabinet. This should be completed by the first week of May. There was a large spread of ideas
submitted. A similar opportunity was presented to students. Twelve proposals were submitted for “Warrior Grants”. There is $30,000 available to fund these projects.

5. Budget & Legislative Update – Students unanimously endorsed a 3% tuition increase for next year. The bonding bill was passed and WSU’s project was NOT on the list. Theme house construction has begun. WSU made an agreement with the City of Winona regarding parking for the theme house. A notice will come out shortly that the Gold Lot behind Maxwell will now be for students living in the Theme House.

On a separate note, Connie Gores mentioned that students will soon start to paint the concrete wall on Huff Street across from Mugby Junction. It will be a mural on our community of learners improving our world. This is a project envisioned, designed and painted by students.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Lamberson
ASF Secretary
April 12, 2012