A special ASF Meet & Confer was held to discuss issues raised after the request for feedback on the naming of Somsen Hall in May.

In general, there was a perception that a decision on the naming had already been made and administration was not really seeking feedback; in addition, the timing for requested feedback from ASF was not realistic.

Administration pointed out that the old Reg. 2-13 – Naming of University Building or Other Facility; MnSCU Policy 6.8 – Naming Buildings, Sites, and Common Areas; and MnSCU Procedure 6.8.1 – Naming Buildings, Sites, and Common Areas were written at a time when naming was mostly an honorary proposition.

These regulations and policies do not adequately cover situations where donors are requesting naming opportunities; University Advancement requires flexibility to respond appropriately to such requests.

In summary:
- ASF wants future consultation to be meaningful; administration recognizes that its input does influence the Cabinet.
- Administration will prepare a list of buildings and spaces that are “non-nameable” and others that may be in a gray area.
- ASF will share the list with membership and request input on additional buildings or spaces that should be added to the list.
- ASF has no objections to naming a campus space for Harriet Johnson and agrees that administration should determine the best solution, whether it be suggestions of “Johnson Auditorium in Somsen Hall,” “Somsen-Harriet Johnson Auditorium,” or another designation.
- Reg. 5-4 should be reviewed and updated to reflect current practices.