October 2014 Staff Employees’ Council Meeting Notes

- **Meeting Minutes:** Last meeting’s minutes were approved, they will be posted online shortly.

- **Provost Carman:**
  
  o **Enrollment Update:** Student enrollment is up 1,100 total students, and most of these students are undergraduates. This is twice the influx we expected. Everyone worked well together to manage these high numbers.
    
    ▪ Going forward, the waitlist function will be enabled for all classes and without a cap on the waitlist. This will help us to understand student demand and how to allocate resources to keep students on track for graduation.
    
    ▪ We will meet the 2021 projection of 22,000 within the next 2-3 years.
    
    ▪ We will focus on enrollment management going forward.

  o **Planning Update:** The Strategic and Master planning process is coming to an end. The latest drafts are up on the Provost’s website. Feedback must be received by the end of this week to get these documents to the Board of Regents by November 3 for the December meeting agenda.
    
    ▪ Circus Circus is interested in selling their property and doesn’t want to be zoned as limited gaming.

  o **15 to Finish:** This program has been controversial, we will be reviewing and adapting the program to provide opportunities for exceptions for students that should not be enrolled in 15 credits. This is an NSHE-wide initiative, and it is in the financial best interests of the students.
    
    ▪ Embraced by Complete College America.
    
    ▪ University of Hawaii one of the first to implement. Many universities are enacting similar policies.
    
    ▪ Increases our graduation rates, and our reputation. Graduating students is our business.
    
    ▪ Statistics show the longer you take to graduate, the less likely you are to do so. Cost-effective for students to graduate sooner.

  o **Yik Yak:** This new app for smart phones networks people in a small radius, i.e. in classrooms. It has been used to disrupt teaching by setting off sounds on all networked students’ phones. Students have been asked via email to not disrupt classes.

  o **Infrastructure Upgrades:** PeopleSoft (division of Oracle) and Workday vendors are in the running to help us integrate our business systems. Our student systems have already been integrated. The Board of Regents are meeting tomorrow to decide which vendors we will utilize.
    
    ▪ Workday is very good at managing electronic transactions.
Investments: 32 new tenure-track, 9 new full-time lecturer, 30 new grad teach assistantship lines—next fall increase base 155 to 165, money for grad student travel, 5 academic advisors, 5 classified staff campus-wide via RFP, library shortfall to cancel journals authorized 300,000 to offset, 3/4mill for classroom and research equipment upgrades, 568,000 IT upgrades, 2.5% increase operating budgets for all units. Hope to increase by 2.5% again next year. Additional positions in finance and admin and student services also to accommodate all of these new students.

Next year student fees increase by 4% and by 4% for the next four years. Allow us to be more aggressive in hiring new people.

Recommendation for legislature increase weighted student credit hour by $5. Fully fund based on formula.

Grant-in-Aid Update: Significant topic of discussion with a lot of support. Working on the details of how best to administer this benefit. Movement on this issue in the not too distant future.

SharePoint: SharePoint is an online collaboration tool used to centralize and limit document storage under 2 GB. Albert, Betsy and Linda administer our SEC SharePoint. Only people with NETIDs can use SharePoint, and the URL must be known (no way to search). Our URL is http://sharepoint.unr.edu/sites/committees/sec. The best way to access it is on a Windows machine using Internet Explorer. If something is accidentally deleted, check the Recycle Bin. Alerts are a useful way to keep up-to-date on site changes (documents, events, etc.). Open with Explorer allows you to view the SharePoint site as if it were a folder on your computer. Calendar, Events, Tasks, Discussion Boards, Surveys, and Contacts are other helpful SharePoint site features. To access SEC SharePoint from off-campus, use unr\NETID as the username. If any committees need their own SEC SharePoint sub-site, contact Albert and he will work with Justin Farris to make it so. If you need help or instructions for Mac users, contact jfarris@unr.edu.

United Way: The focus is on helping families. Familywize.org - compare prescription prices among pharmacies. YouTube video - education 2012. The impact of education has wide-ranging ripple effects. Goal is by 2020 double the kids reading at grade level.

New secretary: Cynthia Olivo assisted by Jodi Fraser.

Albert met with all of the SECs within NSHE. We are ahead of the game on the grant-in-aid issue; they haven’t surveyed their constituents yet. The big push is out of Las Vegas.

How can classified employees as a whole improve the quality of life on campus for students, faculty and ourselves?

Ask constituents for ideas, get them involved in the solution.

Las Vegas SEC got funding for a scholarship for the student of a classified employee.

As your SEC Representative, please feel free to contact me with questions or comments using my contact information found in the signature line below. We are constantly looking for ways to engage our constituents, so please make sure your voice is heard!