December 12, 2014

In Attendance: President Sheehan, Donna Ballard, Bernie Hamm, Amanda Sagun, John Coles, Tara Connelly, Kurt Ehlers, and Dan Williams.

Meeting Called to Order: 10:30 a.m.

President’s Items:

Vice President, Academic Affairs (VPAA) Search

- Looking for a diverse candidate pool
- An RFP was sent to search firms to assist with recruitment of qualified candidates and is due today
- Selection of next VPAA will be in March with start date of July 1

Performing Arts Center/Parking Discussions

- 375-395 parking spaces on the south side of Raggio Parkway below to DRI
- DRI notified the college that should they get a tenant for that area, we would have to vacate
- TMCC has 14 acres that could be used for parking, however, a cost for parking could be imposed on students to make the improvements
- Parking issues need to be addressed in the near future
- Parking Committee is in place
- Performing Arts Center is in the Facilities Master Plan and approved by Board of Regents
- Currently using RPAC on Keystone Avenue for Performing Arts theater and some safety concerns and difficulties with the property
- Lease on RPAC expires in 18 months and, if renewed, it would be a 4-year contract obligation
- With the design of a new Performing Arts Center on the Dandini campus, parking would be added elsewhere
- Donors want to know what they are going to get and students need to know as well
- Theater performances are the only “extra” that TMCC has since we do not have sports

Budget News

- Pending cuts this are uncertain, however, they are probable
- Options to help with shortfalls:
  - Savings from vacancies
  - freeze positions
- New funding formula is tied to enrollment and when enrollment drops, our funding decreases
- Due to enrollment drops (national trend in community colleges) plus budget reduction, college has a substantial budget reduction
Overview of November 4, 2014 Nevada College Collaborative President’s Retreat

- TMCC, WNC, and GBC attended the retreat
- Legislature taking more funding from community colleges asking more from us and shared services is our response
- Through shared services between the three northern community colleges, it is believed to save millions of dollars through the belief that certain services could be combined and back offices eliminated
- Won’t know the cost benefit until shared services is implemented
- Board of Regents require shared services to be implemented
- Services to be initially shared are Information Technology, Professional Development, and Institutional Research

Campus Highlights:

President Sheehan mentioned that a Communication Committee newsletter is a possibility and would be a great tool for the college.

President Sheehan attended a Classified Council Roundtable recently and the Council said that they didn’t have enough tools to respond to students’ questions of where they can receive help. A Student Services Forum during Professional Development Days will provide answers on a number of questions. The President will mention the Quick Reference Guide at Convocation. TMCC is currently developing an app to help students navigate enrollment, manage their class schedule, make payments, etc.

President announced that the first Institutional Advisory Councils for the northern community colleges will meet on February 4. TMCC will have 11 community voting members and three TMCC faculty and staff ex officio members serving on the Council. The Council will meet quarterly.

Increasing Enrollment:

- President mentioned that she, UNR President, and WCSD Superintendent meet monthly. UNR is currently up in enrollment and TMCC is down. The majority of high school graduates are not ready for the University and don’t have the level of preparation needed. 2008 ACCUPLACER rates show 98% of students placed in remedial math courses which shows the need to front-end students to take math during their first two semesters. Today, the number of students in remedial math is lower. The University does do remediation through “stretch” courses and through their extension services. In addition, UNR provides scholarships. TMCC does not have the resources to provide an equal level of scholarships. To help with identify and invite high school seniors with a GPA of 3.0 and higher to apply to TMCC, we have asked parents to approve sending their student’s transcripts to TMCC. We are also looking at students who are taking CTE courses and inviting them to apply. In addition, we are looking at students who are credit deficient and inviting them. However, we have asked WCSD for funding to support this initiative for the most underprepared students.

- K-12: We must insert ourselves in K-12. In addition, there needs to be a level of coordination between UNR and TMCC to help advise K-12 – specifically, UNR with remedial math and TMCC with remedial ENG.

Open Discussion:

- Currently a national enrollment drop in community colleges. John Coles responded that he felt that the college is losing individual touch due to the number of students and asked “how do we get that smallness factor back?” Adding that this generation requires more individual attention due to helicopter parenting.