



**Chancellor's Cabinet Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2021**

Present: Dr. Stefani Hicswa, Dr. Susan Balter-Reitz, Dr. Kim Hayworth, Maureen Brakke, Brett Weisz, Dr. Jennifer Lynn, Krista Montague, Dr. Jim Barron, Bill Kennedy, and Natalie Preston

Absent: Susan Simmers

Guests: COVID Incident Commander David Nordel, and Director of Assessment and Accreditation Kathleen Thatcher

Meeting began at 2:00 pm

COVID Update:

Incident Commander David Nordel announced the upcoming COVID vaccine clinics that will be held on University Campus Monday, April 12 and at City College Tuesday, April 13 thanks to partnership with Riverstone Health. The clinics will provide the one-dose vaccination for students, staff, and faculty of MSUB.

The COVID Response Team met to plan for fall and will publish their meeting minutes and action plan. There has been discussion about possibly adding a question about COVID vaccination to the housing application given to incoming students.

Legislative Update:

Director of University Communications and Marketing Maureen Brakke reported that she had received questions as to whether MSUB's COVID safety protocol will affect COVID funding and that according to Janelle Booth (MSU Government Affairs Director) it does not.

Chancellor Hicswa added that MSUB has expressed to our congressional delegation that we support doubling the Pell grant as has been proposed.

Strategic Plan Update:

Director of Assessment and Accreditation Kathleen Thatcher reported on changes to the University Strategic Plan. Due in part to the five-year timeline to achieve all goals outlined by strategic planning, the sub-committees have worked with Ms. Thatcher to ensure that the plan focuses on goals that are achievable and reflect MSUB's highest priorities. The updated plan can be viewed on the MSUB website on the Chancellor's Office page.

COB Articulations:

Interim College of Business Dean Richard Beer has been working with community colleges in Wyoming and Montana to ease students' transition here to MSUB to complete a four-year degree. Students from colleges in Wyoming qualify for WUE, making MSUB more affordable.

Register Now:

Vice Chancellor for Student Access and Success Dr. Kim Hayworth has been collaborating with Brandee Soens of the Center for Engagement and Laura Gittings-Carlson of Advising and Student Support Services/TRIO to promote the campaign "Register Now" which is designed to register students for fall classes before the end of spring semester. This helps students commit to and prepare for fall semester and is an effective retention strategy.

Summer Fair:

The Yellowstone Art Museum (YAM) will be hosting Summer Fair on campus this year from June 25th-27th, which coincides with a campus orientation. YAM will invite students and parents to an opening reception at the museum. This may be the first of many opportunities to network MSUB with other Billings organizations and help students connect more with the community.

Departmental Updates:

Departmental updates were provided by those who did not speak to Cabinet at the previous meeting. Athletic Director Krista Montague announced that some athletes have broken MSUB records. Dr. Jim Baron is working to publicize Academic Senate meeting minutes. Dr. Jennifer Lynn, chair elect of Academic Senate will be meeting with Dr. Brock Tessman of OCHE on behalf of MUSFAR to strategize challenging HB102(Constitutional Carry legislation) in court. Interim Provost Dr. Susan Balter-Reitz announced that the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Dr. Christine Shearer resigned. Tami Haaland will be interim dean for one year. Ed Garding will begin as interim dean of the College of Business in June. V.C. Dr. Kim Hayworth spoke on the furniture project being carried out by ASMSUB, and gave an update on enrollment, and her plans to visit the Crow Agency with Chancellor Hicswa and NAAC Director Sunny Day Real Bird. Dr. Hicswa updated the group on behalf of V.C. Susan Simmers; V.C. Simmers is working on infrastructure and long-range facilities planning. Foundation President and CEO Bill Kennedy announced the upcoming Outstanding Alumni luncheon, and that the Development Committee is working hard to raise scholarship funds.

Meeting concluded at 4:00 pm.

Minutes by Natalie Preston, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor