

President's Advisory Council
Thursday, January 17, 2013
Conference Room 3320

Present: Kay Baker, David Berg, Rassoul Dastmozd, Emmanuel Donaby, Darlene Fry, Shaan Hamilton, Bernie Hesse, Paul Huot, Allan Ige, Phoua Kong, Marilyn Krasowski, Joseph Kroeger (by telephone), Tom Matos, Heather McGannon, Jean Ness, Najam Saeed, Erica Schumacher, Rachelle Schmidt, and Ed Schones

Absent: Cecile Bedor, Dan Bostrom, Greg Buck, Lea Hargett, Lorrie Louder, Dorothy Richburg, Kim Stecher, and George Watson

Excused: John Brodrick, Harry Melander, Kim Stecher

Guests: Culinary Art student Kelsey Black, Chef Dan Vasterling

Rassoul called the meeting to order at 4:06pm, announcing absence of Chair.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the January 17, 2013 agenda. *The motion carried.*

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded with approve the November 15, 2012 minutes, with a date correction under the "Adjournment" heading. *The motion carried.*

Faculty Presentation – Dan Vasterling

Dan Vasterling, a culinary instructor, made a presentation on the catering coursework offered at Saint Paul College through the culinary arts program. He showed a PowerPoint presentation featuring photos of the culinary students' current catering work with the Red Bull Crashed Ice event workers. This week, Saint Paul College culinary program will provide catering services to several hundred event workers and attendees. Dan emphasized this event as an example of ways culinary students at Saint Paul College are exposed to various types of audiences and menus through experiential coursework.

Allan Ige asked whether students received additional incentives from the Red Bull event besides kitchen experience. Dan explained that students accrue catering hours to be applied toward their completion of the program's catering course.

Kay Baker asked what job placement rates are like for graduates of the culinary program. Dan replied that placement is good for those students who want to get into the industry immediately, and Rassoul added that many students in the culinary program are already currently working in the food service industry.

Student Presentation – Kelsey Black

Kelsey Black, a student in the Culinary Arts Program, talked about her experience in catering at Saint Paul College, adding that she currently works for Kowalski's catering. She expressed appreciation for the culinary program at Saint Paul College, specifically the opportunities for working experience. Kelsey stated that she came to the College based on the program's reputation and low tuition. She will join Dan on the next episode of his television cooking show segment on Fox 9.

Allan asked how the culinary program at Saint Paul College compares to the program at Le Cordon Bleu, where Dan previously taught. Dan identified the primary variances in the programs are that Le Cordon Bleu's program is technique-driven, whereas the program at Saint Paul College has a greater focus on preparing students to work in a busy kitchen environment through planning and multitasking.

Rassoul announced that seven culinary students will be receiving scholarships from the Minneapolis Chefs' Club at an awards ceremony on January 22. Kelsey Black is one of the recipients.

President's Report – President Dastmozd

Rassoul provided an overview of recently received grants and in-progress applications, as well as partnerships with community organizations and other MnSCU schools. A grant from Bremer received in partnership with MCTC will address poverty and homelessness within the student population. A partnership with Genesys Works will create a Social Innovation Fund (SIF) for the business program. A partnership with Job Corps is in development for a pathway to the College's Culinary Arts Program. Trade labor unions and individuals will be visiting campus in February in order to establish a pre-apprenticeship program for construction opportunities and the growing labor demand for union trade occupations. MCTC is utilizing Saint Paul College's welding labs while the labs at MCTC undergo renovation. This arrangement is the result of a partnership between the two institutions. Several Saint Paul College representatives met with 3M representatives at the Cottage Grove plant this week to discuss machining needs of 3M. As a result of this meeting, the College will investigate the feasibility of designing a mechatronics program which integrates electrical and mechanical coursework.

There is an identified workforce gap in this area of machining. Rassoul informed the President's Advisory Council members that some area businesses requested a Right Skills Now certificate program. Paul Huot added that the goal of a Right Skills Now machining certificate program is to move students through to a 2-year college for an advanced set of skill attainment. Rassoul responded that the goal in new program offerings would be that the student may remain employed while continuing education.

Saint Paul College is working with YWCA at Saint Paul, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development to provide to Ramsey County a program similar to that in Hennepin County, which allows youths who have had past legal trouble to pursue an education. We will also partner with two non-profit community based organizations.

Tom Matos added that the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce will host an event at Saint Paul College which will bring 500 Latina young women to campus for training, career and program exploration. The "State of the College" document, which includes President's activities in the community, will be sent to the Council via email.

Budget Update – VP Shaan Hamilton

Shaan reviewed a PowerPoint presentation. The presentation included an overview of the sources of funding, the fiscal year 2014-2015 state budget forecast, and the effect of enrollment changes at Saint Paul College on the budget for the College. Shaan stated that, overall, budgeting was very close to what was projected. Conversations will be held at Cabinet to determine budget for upcoming year.

Rassoul stated that this summer there will be intense marketing, as enrollment is typically comparatively low in the summer. Shaan explained that the trend of decreased summer enrollment last year applies to many schools, due to the elimination of federal year-round Pell grant eligibility that used to include the summer term.

Allan Ige asked if money generated by specific programs goes into that program, or if it is applied to the overall college budget. Marilyn clarified that he was asking more specifically about programs like culinary or cosmetology, which provide direct services to the public. Shaan replied that this money generated goes to the program's cost center, and Rassoul noted that any money generated by these programs is not substantial income and most program money comes from the College's fund.

David Berg asked about the state of the reserves. Shaan stated that the reserves are strong, with a 25% fund balance in FY2011, and over 30% this past fiscal year. Rassoul added that using the College's reserves affects accreditation for the school. He also emphasized the importance of careful budgeting as the State drops funding support and the College attempts to avoid increased tuition.

Enrollment – Associate Vice President Thomas Matos

Tom reported that Saint Paul College has a current count of 2,161 full-year enrollment students, which is 6 fewer students than spring term 2012. Some fluctuation will yet occur in these numbers, considering the 4-5 FYE students coming from College Career Pathways program, and the upcoming drop/add deadline. Still, Saint Paul College has the second highest enrollment for peer institutions, and the declining enrollment trend is misleading in comparison to other schools, since Saint Paul College has a recent history of rising enrollment trends.

Legislative Agenda – President Dastmozd

Rassoul distributed two MnSCU information sheets and reviewed the content. These sheets included information on: goals of combined MnSCU efficiencies such as shared cooperative services, partnered ask of funds from State based on combined performance, integration of workforce and learning, working for pathways from high school to college, and a Saint Paul College fact sheet, including information on achievement, internships and apprenticeships. Legislators will be on campus February 12, 2013, for legislative breakfast.

Phoua expressed concern that tuition would spike with the projected partnerships. Rassoul replied that tuition increases may be inevitable, but that the College is working with its budget to keep the increases as low as possible.

Grants/Equipment – VP Marilyn Krasowski

Marilyn reported that the College has a new grant writer who will provide much needed expertise in solidifying and submitting grant proposals. Employee donation to the Friends of Saint Paul College Foundation has seen a 60% increase in the number of donors from last year, and a 53% increase in the amount donated. Over \$31,000 was awarded to students in scholarships this year and the Scholarship Dinner on December 7, 2012 produced an \$8,500 net gain. Marilyn and Laura Savin have recently been attending program advisory committee meetings to explore and identify program equipment needs to be prepared for equipment opportunities. The Foundation is seeking matching donations for equipment and in-kind equipment donations.

Rassoul noted that two URLs are listed on the agenda which will allow committee members to view in-progress and completed 2012-2013 goals. The username and password is listed under the chart containing the URLs.

Discussion

David Berg commented on his enjoyment of the December 7th Scholarship Dinner, and reported that an acquaintance also enjoyed the event.

Bernie Hesse asked the names of the legislative contacts. Rassoul indicated Jerry Janezich and Bernie Omann.

Allan Ige asked about the relationship between 2-year colleges and 4-year colleges, specifically about the ease of students to transfer credits. Rassoul replied that in Minnesota, transferring credits is not difficult between schools because of the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) agreement in place. He also pointed out that the business model of each type of school is very different. Ideally, the student entering a 2-year college would begin planning a course schedule according to the MnTC agreement if intending to transfer. Tom Matos added that 2-year colleges are able to offer remedial courses for students who are not immediately college-ready, whereas the business model of a 4-year college does not allow that margin.

Adjournment

Rassoul adjourned the meeting at 5:36pm.

Respectfully submitted by:
Emma Furness