

Meeting Minutes Foundation Board

Thursday, October 4, 2018
Presidents' Hall, Aldo and Anna Mazzaferro Center

Present: President Richard Lapidus, Jay Bry, Alberto Cardelle, Cindy Carroll, Martin Connors, Nicholas DiNinno, Anthony Emerson, Scott Foster, Richard Healey, John Mahan, Anthony Mercadante, Nicholas Smith, Karen Spinelli

Regrets: Don Irving, John O'Brien

Ex-Officio: Christopher Hendry

Also Attending: Shane Franzen, Heather Mazzaferro, Henry Parkinson, Jasmine Yang

Welcome and Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by President Richard Lapidus, who welcomed the board and reviewed the agenda. Two new members were introduced to the board: Nicholas Smith and Karen Spinelli.

Approval of Minutes from June 21, 2018

President Lapidus requested a motion to accept the minutes for the June 21, 2018 Foundation Board Meeting.

Upon a motion made by President Lapidus and seconded by Anthony Mercadante, the directors voted unanimously (13-0) to approve the June 21, 2018 Foundation Board of Directors Meeting Minutes. (Request FB-01-100418)

President's Goals FY19

President Lapidus presented his goals for FY19, similar to preceding years, but with one addition to oversee the campus branding exercise. Marketing is soliciting feedback on perceptions of Fitchburg State in order to stretch the brand and redesign the website.

Food Insecurity Program

Hank Parkinson introduced the Food Insecurity Program. The committee for the program has approximately 30 members. Working with the Wisconsin Hope Lab, the student body was surveyed as part of a country-wide study. The survey questioned a student's personal concerns about food and housing. The incentive to respond to the survey was a chance at winning one of ten \$100 gift cards. Nonetheless, the number of responses received was low.

Shane Franzen introduced the Falcon Bazaar in the Hammond Campus Center G15. The Falcon Bazaar is a pantry area which stores food and hygiene necessities for students in need.

Heather Mazzaferro, the former manager of Ginny's Food Pantry, introduced the Green Bag Initiative. Reusable green bags are being distributed across campus for faculty and staff to donate food and hygiene necessities to stock the Falcon Bazaar.

Hank explained Swipe It Forward which gives a student the opportunity to donate one of their guest meals to someone in need. A total of 210 meals were donated and approximately 50 were given. One student was provided ten meals which would help her last until her financial aid posted and she would be refunded.

There are two groups, SNAP and Chartwells, which the committee is currently reaching out to, to get involved. Their future hopes are to increase fundraising efforts and eventually, tackle housing insecurity. Hank is reaching out to Alicia Cianciola in the Grants department for assistance.

Campus Updates

Enrollment

There are 1050 new undergraduates enrolled this year, replacing the 1075 graduates of last year. 33% of the new undergraduates are first generation students. 36% of the students identify as under-represented.

New Hires

Fitchburg State welcomes a new Director of Housing and Residential Services, Christopher Medley, and Matt Burke, the Director of Athletics.

New Programs

Fitchburg State received a grant from the DHE to work in partnership with community colleges around the area to give registered nurses the opportunity to get their Bachelor of Science degrees while continuing to work. RN to BS in Nursing is one of the university's fully online programs.

The Criminal Justice 4+1 Program had their first class graduate on September 13. Students who wish to be certified as a police officer can complete the program within 5 years. They receive their bachelor's, master's, and upon completion, their certification by the Municipal Police Training Committee. Currently, there are 250 students in the program.

Fitchburg State is collaborating with the Worcester District Attorney's office to champion a program against the opioid epidemic. Resources would be directed towards first time offenders and individuals suffering from substance abuse, by means of sending them to rehabilitation in an effort to prevent imprisonment and change of life.

Theater Block Update

The Idea Lab is complete, but a decision is yet to come on a development company for the entirety of the Theater Block Campaign.

Advancement

Chris Hendry presented the Golf tournament P & L, noting the drop in numbers caused by vendors the University is no longer doing business with. He continued by expressing his concern for the future of the annual golf tournaments. They are excellent for fundraising, as well as, friendraising, but they are labor intensive and the return is decreasing. There is an oversaturation of golf tournaments in the area.

Other Business

President Lapidus bid farewell to Chris and thanked him for his 13 years of service.

Adjournment

With no further business, President Lapidus requested a motion to adjourn the October 4, 2018 Foundation Board of Directors Meeting.

The directors voted unanimously (13-0) to adjourn the October 4, 2018 Foundation Board of Directors Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jasmine Yang.