

## **MSCF Legislative Steering Committee**

Conference Call – Meeting

September 7, 2016

3:30 PM – 4:30 PM Meeting summary

I. Call to order by chairperson: Rick Nelson

Members present: Ben Kiely, Andrea Buettner, Jamie Kleinendorst, Paul McDonald

Staff Present: Matt Ryg.

II. Introduction of members and a brief overview of the committee responsibilities for the 2016–17 academic year. Briefly discussed setting goals, creating a vision for the legislative ask, campaign/election initiatives, SAWBUCK club, and other activities around the legislature including but not limited to lobbying.

III. A quick update was shared with the members of the steering committee regarding Rick's position in the future. We now have an MOU from MN-State regarding another release position to work on governmental relations. Look for updates on this in the near future.

IV. SAWBUCK club Update and discussion—looking for committee and executive committee members to make recommendations and suggestions.

- Note: we will discuss in December or January whether or not to continue SAWBUCK club as we know it today.

Read the attachment to Get Active Campaign 2016 – this is going out to membership at MSCF on Thursday or Friday for 8th or 9th of September.

We need to all promote this Get Active Campaign for it is about all of us. Steering committee members asked: In the future if we can have some kind of contest around the Get Active

Campaign or an online pledge to vote and encourage participation in the contest that may include highest percentage of faculty and the greatest number? Will bring up and discuss with the executive committee meeting, it may not work for 2016 but something in 2018 and beyond. Everyone in the committee suggested that the executive committee and others as well as chapter leaders need to step forward and promote the Get Active Campaign and encourage others to tell their story as to why we need to do this. A suggestion was made that we have a statewide chapter presidents/board members GoToMeeting discussion in late-September or early-October to put a last push on for the Get Active Campaign.

V. The Education Minnesota/AFL- CIO events will be published next week on the legislative site of the MSCF webpage It will be a good opportunity for people to see what's going on and to find out how they maybe can get involved in a campaign in their area or another part of Minnesota.

VI. "Road warriors"- information will be coming out from Matt and Rick in regards to the eight or ten sites the Road Warriors will be working on this fall. This will give an opportunity for those members who are in safe districts or districts where they think an incumbent who is not necessarily pro-higher education can contribute and step up to help a candidate that will support public higher education. State House of Representatives and Senators will be included in this list, look for that to come out soon.

VII. Discussion on timelines for 2017 legislative goals:

Request will go out next week for ideas for members

- Will share feedback with members of the statewide steering committee and the executive committee in October
- Will have a meeting either face-to-face or add a GoToMeeting to finalize 90% of the goals in late-October
- Goals will be finalized in a conference call in mid-November

- Presentation of goals will go to the board December 2nd for approval

Discussion took place on getting our members engaged – what else can we do? Members said this is always the big question and we agreed to the following- It's about telling our story, getting people engaged, and moving forward.

We discussed the student pledge to vote and are exploring should we do something similar on line for the 2016 election in October as a way to remind faculty to put on a push at the end of the campaign cycle?

Discussion on lobby day for January during opening week or two will discuss further along with the possibility of a February and March lobby day.

The committee agreed to promote “adopting a legislator program concept ” once the House and Senate Higher Ed. committees are formed; this concept/program include assigning/asking committee members to specific legislators to build a relationship, be a point person, during and in-between sessions if they have questions about higher education. We may ask the executive committee to join in adopting a legislator program; details are being worked on by Rick and Matt.

Meeting adjourned