

UHESA Meeting #59
May 21, 2010
USU

Roll call: Greg Dart, Mark Wiesenberger, Clint Moser, Dennis Cox, Travis Rosenberg, Bruce Barclay, Bill Jensen, Lynell Gardner, Deb Megill, Ron Giles, Lisa Pederson, Doug Garrett, Geniva Brooks, Jim Kittelsrud, Karen Hoffman, Butch Stephen

Pres. Albrecht - Merger of USU & CEU:

CEU will remain as it has in the past but will now be under the USU umbrella. Nothing will be taken away from the school, but value will be added to it. This distinguishes CEU from the other regional campuses. The community college mission of CEU is protected and will continue to service the southeastern part of Utah with vocational programs. It will protect the students and they will pay CEU tuition for 2 years before going into the USU schedule. The campus will be led by a chancellor who will be Joe Peterson and he will report to the USU Pres. This is a good thing for higher education in the state of Utah. There are some positives for USU: it brings us into contact with potential donors that will bring money into USU/CEU. CEU will still need a strong presence of staff members on campus but with integration with USU. Because of lack of resources at CEU they have not been able to have all the same things that USU has, so this will be very beneficial to them.

Rhonda Menlove:

Budget briefs:

1. Higher Education cuts were back-filled with ongoing dollars
2. Budget cut was reduced to around 5% for a total 14% cut in recent years
3. New state-funded and institutional-funded capital projects were approved
4. Some O&M requests were funded

UHESA needs to meet Spencer Pratt who is the Higher Ed analyst. He comes to all campuses and we need to let our presidents know that we want to be to the meeting when he is at our institutions.

Public education is the responsibility of the state, but Higher Ed can raise revenue.

UHESA can make a difference because legislatures are very unorganized with Higher Ed. We have to get involved before the session starts (March).

Success starts before the session:

1. Join a political party
2. Get to know local party leaders
3. Attend meetings, donate, volunteer
4. Attend caucus meetings
5. Become a delegate
6. Engage other and provide information and education-Facebook, websites, newsletters, meetings
7. Look at the Tea Party movement to learn about effective organizing by the Tea Party movement.

We need to be more strategic and have good data and people on our side.

Communicate with elected officials:

1. Contact elected officials directly
2. You have both a senator and a representative in the Utah Legislature.
3. Find legislator contact information at www.le.state.ut.us
4. Follow legislation at www.le.state.ut.us
5. Find the best way to contact your legislator
6. E-mail, letter, phone call, personal visit

When visiting a legislator, start with a positive with recognition and ask if you can visit with them for a while.

Communicate with elected officials:

It is politically more correct not to use college or university email addresses

Most effective contact is a personal visit

Call to arrange the visit or invite the legislator to a community meeting

Start with a positive, follow with a question

End with a thank you

Listening opens the door to future communication

Keep conversation short and to the point

Share clear concise information

Keep it to one easy to read page

Summarize information and format it in an understandable manner

Use bullets for key points and tables and charts for data or numbers

Remember that legislators receive large amount of print information.

Learn the legislative process

Have our issues laid out fairly quickly. Study the Regents information and tell them how we think higher Ed should be governed. Go forward as one voice. Policy issues are as important as budget issues.

Friends of Higher Education is a business organization with Bob Marquardt as the head who could really help UHESA.

Approval of minutes: Dennis Cox motioned to approve March minutes with Travis seconding it.

Financial report -Jim Kittelsrud: We started with\$5300. \$1700 came in and we have spent \$1400. Balance is \$5839.00

Webpage update – Travis: We have a working webpage and all links are current. We will add links to areas that we are interested in going to.

Legislative session: Butch

1. Letter to legislators: We need to make sure our web address is in all correspondence that we send out. Use bullets and thank them especially for certain things. We can put our priorities for next year in with our thank you letter.
2. Legislative priorities – Our letter should be put together soon
3. Presenters today: One thing Butch heard from the presenters today was that Dan Campbell was not approved as a regent yesterday by the senate. He is coming out of UVU's Board of Trustees.

Geniva:

Please report these at the July conference:

1. We can make a difference. We need to be building relationships with our legislators and institutional presidents right now. She is challenging each of us to get to know our legislators personally and report back to the group in June with your experiences. We haven't been following through in past years, but she feels that we really need to be committed to UHESA. We need to get our staff associations on board to help us make a difference.
2. Be thinking of policy issues for UHESA. What can we use to all come together as a UHESA group? This will be on our agenda for the June conference call.

UHESA Annual Conference

1. July 15-16, 2010 at UVU.
2. It will be held at the new Alumni Center
3. Begin meeting outside with team building
4. Possibly ask BobMarquardt to speak to us
5. Have Clint lead a discussion / workshop on how to be more involved as staff presidents in our higher education institutions with experiences from UVU
6. Provide staff surveys that were taken last year from each higher education staff assoc
7. Travis motioned to adjourn the meeting and Karen seconded it.

Meeting adjourned