Notes from the MUSSA Video-Conference, 3/12/2015

Present:
MSU Billings – Sheri Steiner
MSU Bozeman – Dave Court, Diane Dorgan, Joan Ford
MSU Northern (Havre) – Debra Bradley, Jennifer Anderson
Helena College UM – Mary Ann George
UM Missoula – Matt Filer, Maggie Linder, Judy Wellert
Not represented: Montana Tech (Butte), UM Western (Dillon), Great Falls College

MUSSA Chair Mary Ann George called the meeting to order. The minutes of the January video-conference were approved. Judy will have them posted on the MUSSA website.

Maggie raised the issue of Dillon and Butte’s lack of representation on MUSSA with President Engstrom. He spoke to the chancellors at those campuses who stated there is no interest among their staff, but the chancellors would like their staff have a presence with MUSSA. MUSSA will revisit this issue after the Board of Regent’s meeting in May.

Sheri stated that the professional development opportunities in Billings are not presented by Human Resources. Billings would like to get Betsy Webb’s input for improving their staff’s professional development opportunities. Joan will relay that message to Betsy.

Debra stated that professional development in Havre is coordinated by a committee with the approval of their Provost.

Dave said that the list of available professional development opportunities in Bozeman is emailed to the staff on a monthly basis.

Mary Ann requested that Maggie ask Cindy Boies if she would reach out to the UM affiliate campuses or does that happen currently?

Mary Ann thinks that the professional development information would best be used by campus staff organizations to coordinate their own opportunities or to share with individual Human Resource offices. She will report to the Board of Regents in May that MUSSA has been examining the professional development practices on each campus, but she is not planning to present the data to the BoR unless other campuses feel it is pertinent to do that.

As we look at the employee statistical reports, Mary Ann asked that Judy compile the information into a one-page document demonstrating the constituency of MUSSA on each
Everyone was asked to “fine-tune” their reports and get the information to Judy by the end of March. Temporary employees are to be included.

Mary Ann encouraged all the MUSSA representatives to attend the Board of Regents meeting on May 21-22 in Kalispell. Since our time with the Regents is so limited, we need to be sure we are able to provide relevant information. She will furnish paperwork to the BoR in advance so they have time to consider it, and we can be more productive at the meeting.

Sheri reported that fifty staff members have registered for their upcoming professional development opportunity. Their campus is eager to increase their emphasis on professional development.

Helena is surveying their staff for the first time in many years. They are using a survey tool from Noel Levitz that asks participants to rate both their satisfaction with certain aspects of campus as well as the importance of the aspect surveyed. The goal of the survey is to glean the issues on campus that are the most important and measure how well the campus is doing in those areas.

The meeting was adjourned.