

MEMORANDUM

To: ASC Members

From: Matt Petry

Date: September 29, 2014

Subject: Notes from September 18, 2014 ASC Teleconference

Members present via teleconference: Matt Petry, Larry Buchholtz, Lynnde Colling, Sheldon Flom and Marty Kelsey. There was no Executive Council representation.

Agenda Item 1: Ad-Hoc Report Requests for Department of Workforce Services, Research and Planning Division

- Matt indicated that the base memorandum-of-understanding (MOU) in support of ad-hoc report requests for the Research and Planning Division (R&P) was still being reviewed by Enterprise Technology Services (ETS). However, he felt it would be approved shortly, and the subsequent review by the Attorney General's Office would happen quickly, and would result in final approval. Matt also said that on September 10, he sent the college presidents a flowchart depicting the path ad-hoc report requests would follow, as well as a rough outline of the types of information that would be required. He asked for their questions and comments no later than September 19.

Agenda Item 2: Salary Increase Funding

- Matt informed the ASC members that the Budget Division was working on agency allocations of the salary increase appropriations, and that the Commission would make the college distributions once the funding was received from the Budget Division, but certainly well ahead of any cash flow difficulties the colleges might experience due to pay raises given July 1. He also provided reassurance that unlike state agencies, the colleges' allocation amounts wouldn't be reduced by possible payroll savings due to position vacancies.

Agenda Item 3: Increased Retirement Contributions

- Matt notified the ASC members that the \$780,000 appropriated for reimbursement of increased retirement contributions had been received from the Budget Division.

Agenda Item 4: College Forms and Reports Matrix

- Larry asked if there were any questions about forms and reports submission, and then reminded the ASC members of those deadlines that had recently passed for the Biennial Funding Report (i.e., Form 201) and Senate Enrolled Act 0052 submissions. He also reminded them of the approaching October deadlines for the colleges' annual reports on both the Endowment Challenge Program and the Excellence in Higher Education Endowment funds, as well as State Higher Education Finance (SHEF) reporting.

Next ASC Meeting / Teleconference

- October 16 Teleconference, 2:30 to 4:00

Round Table Discussion

- Lynnde asked if any of the other colleges had heard that the Wyoming Retirement System would begin assessing an 8 percent penalty on retirement contributions not remitted monthly, including in cases in which pay has historically been processed at semester-end, even though it may have been earned throughout the semester (e.g., “low-credit” adjunct instructors and overloads). This change is apparently being driven by the Retirement System’s conversion to its new system, commonly known as RAIN. Though not aware of this specific policy change, Matt indicated that it appeared to be consistent with the Retirement System’s position on contributions for faculty members that honor their contractual obligations in 9 months, but are paid over 10, 11 or 12 months. Lynnde went on to say that she had left a message for Rose Todd of the Retirement System staff seeking clarification, but Rose had yet to return her call. Once she received that clarification, Lynnde said she would share it with the other ASC members in an e-mail. Those ASC members present on the call all felt the policy (if true) was burdensome, and that the 8 percent assessment was unreasonable. Marty suggested that if it were true, the colleges should seek a legislator to sponsor legislation permitting the current practice.