Rochester Higher Education Development Committee  
Meeting Minutes for February 15, 2007

Time: 7 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  
Location: Edina Realty Rochester, 1301 Salem Road SW, Rochester, MN

Members Present:  
Marilyn Stewart  
Jayne Rankin  
Dr. David Metzen  
Drew Flaada  
David Paskach  
Dwight Gourneau  
Al DeBoer

Member not present:  
Michael Vekich  
Al Berning  
Dr. Wendy Shannon  
Dr. Claire Bender

Others Present:  
Michael Murphy  
Gail Sauter  
Donald Sudor  
Phillip Henoch  
Greg Lea  
Nathan Tesch  
Tim Gilsrud  
Dr. David Carl  
Dr. Claudia Neuhauser  
Dr. Vipin Kumar  
Dr. Charles Christenson  
Dick Westerlund  
Kent Spaulding  
Alison Good  
Dr. Christine Quinn  
Faith Zimmerman  
Teresa Puetz  
Mark Casperson  
Jay Hesley  
John Wade  
Kim David  
Sandy Keith  
Dr. Joe Gibilisco  
Gary Smith

Chair Stewart called the meeting to order at 7:07 A.M.

Chair update. Focus groups for the University of Minnesota Rochester will be scheduled in the future. The University of Minnesota Rochester is now considered the fifth branch of the University of Minnesota by the Board of Regents. Dr. Robert Jones from the University of Minnesota has started the search for the search firm that will help with the search for the new a chancellor for the University of Minnesota Rochester.

Gary Smith, Executive Vice President of Rochester Area Economic Development presented an update on the Rochester Area economic growth. Benchmark purchased Pemstar and works with medical device companies. Mr. Smith said that Rochester would be a “dense” center for biotech businesses. Construction of the new biotech center building in downtown Rochester would start in October 2007. The “anchor tenant” would be Mayo Medical Ventures. It would bring approximately 250 new jobs. They want to create an “urban village” in downtown Rochester to attract the people who will want to come to downtown Rochester.

At this time the Committee achieved a quorum. Member Metzen moved to approve the November 16, 2006 minutes. Member Flaada seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
Staff Maplethorpe presented the idea of contracting with the University of Minnesota for $75,000 for an information campaign for the UMR. Member Flaada moved to approve the contract. Member Gourneau seconded the motion. Motion was approved. Member Metzen abstained because of a conflict of interested because he is a Regent for the University of Minnesota.

Next Dr. David Carl, Provost of the University of Minnesota Rochester made some comments about the progress the UMR has made towards fulfilling the vision of the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee. Dr. Carl said the University of Minnesota Board of Regents accepted the report from the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee and designated the University of Minnesota Rochester as the fifth campus of the University of Minnesota. The Board of Regents had started the process of looking for a Chancellor for the University of Minnesota Rochester. The current provost will be the chief academic officer. The current Advisory Committee will be dissolved and a new committee will be formed and will report to the new Chancellor. He thanked the current advisory committee.

Dr. Carl said that the University of Minnesota Rochester must have a strong identity. The UMR has a presidential Emerging Leaders organization (PEL) that identifies new leaders from current staff helps them to fill open positions at the UMR. Nominations for this group must come from the Dean or from the Provost. Increasing the UMR visibility and identity was selected as a project for the PEL group.

He introduced three other presenters who used Powerpoint presentations to tell the RHED Committee about the progress that has been made. These powerpoint presentations are posted on the web http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/rochester/ for February 15, 2007.

Ms. Gail Sauter presented information for Mike Denny, Director of Development Services for the University of Minnesota who was sick. Ms. Sauter said that 3 acceptable landlords in downtown Rochester had responded to an RFP for space for the University of Minnesota Rochester. The UMR considered future expansion possibilities, future partnerships, the learning environment that would be available, possible internships, branding, flexible space configuration and parking. The Center Place Galleria was selected. It has 30,000 square feet. The Welcome Center will be on the first floor with Student Services and the bookstore. The front will be across the street from the Peace Plaza.

Member Metzen asked if alcohol was allowed in the building. Ms. Sauter said it was not yet allowed.

Member DeBoer asked if the planning will be complete by the fall of 2008. Ms. Sauter said it would be.

Member DeBoer commented that the UMR would be in the downtown space for five years and asked how growth was to be handled. Dr. Carl said the space will not be completely filled in the beginning and the UMR will partner with Mayo for sharing space.

Dr. Carl then introduced Dr. Claudia Neuhauser and Dr. Vipin Kumar to present information on the Biotechnology Initiative. The Powerpoint is Signature Research and Academic Collaborations on the Rochester web page. To start with they will use existing programs to create the new biotechnology programs. Each student will have two advisors, one from each department. The will be a symposium to attract new students. There will be seed grants to get research started. The new graduate students will be admitted by mid-April which is a national deadline. April 18th there will be a second symposium and research will be selected in early June.
Member Rankin asked about graduate students starting in existing programs. Dr. Neuhauser answered that the process works and that the first students will get their degrees under existing programs. They will collaborate with other institutions.

Member Rankin asked if there would be teleconferencing in the building. Mr. Dick Westerlund said that the building would have teleconferencing capability.

Dr. Neuhauser said that forcing faculty from other institutions to advise students together forced them to talk to each other.

Member DeBoer asked if all institutions would be involved so that the process will be bigger than just Rochester.

Dr. Neuhauser said that in Berkley they have teleconferences around the world. “We will be unbeatable!”

Mr. Westerlund said that students are used to talking to each other like this.

Dr. Carl introduced Dr. Charles Christiansen for the Allied Health update. The Powerpoint is the Center for Allied Health Programs on the Rochester Web page.

Dr. Christiansen said that he was living in Rochester. The Allied Health Center will be an incubator for new ways to educate health care providers. The current ways of educating health care workers are obsolete. The current programs of occupational therapy, medical technology, radiation, respiration care, and other programs to be determined will migrate into the Rochester Center. They are already working on articulation agreements. There will be shared curricula and joint degrees. Students should be able to progress seamlessly through the articulation agreements. There are already joint degrees between the University of Minnesota and other institutions.

The new Student Services Director is a “millennial” (young and tech savvy) so he understands what is needed to create these new programs. They will produce a new 7-12 statement which is used to describe the faculty tenure track. Learners expect customization from web pages. Students expect to be able to interact. Schools are organized as our grandfathers were educated, around the agricultural calendar in an industrial setting. The future is digital. We need to provide the suites of tools. Education needs to be easy, playful, useful, and flexible. Learning must take place at the right time and place.

The University is working on its student portal so information is organized for the student, customized information, transportable, secure spaces, systems to watch, listen and learn. Like My U page.

Next Dr. Carl introduced Kent Spalding, Business Liaison Officer Academic Corporate Relations Center. Mr. Spalding said that businesses wanted more training for their employees. He said that he was working with the businesses in the region.

Member Flaada asked how the University evaluated success. Mr. Spalding said it was by the number of visits, through faculty consultations and the number of dollars brought into the University. Mr. Spalding will do a survey of the businesses in May to ask how his office is doing.

That was the end of the presentations. The floor was open to questions. There were no questions from the Committee.
A person from the audience asked Dr. Christiansen how clinical experiences are selected for the student – especially for students who want a certain institution. Dr. Christiansen said they do their best to match the student to want is requested. They can list three choices. They try to match the first choice. They are also looking at changing the rotations. Do they have to be 6 to 8 weeks? Can they be shorter? Does the rotation focus on the right things? The model has been to sit in a class and then go out to a clinical setting for hands on experience. Many times those two pieces are not blended well. A clinician should not have to decide if a student progresses.

Adjourn 9:25 A.M.

FUTURE MEETINGS: 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Friday, April 20, 2007.

Additional Dates to Be Announced for June, September, December 2007