



June 24, 2011

Dear Community:

Contemplation for the week:

"That inner voice has both gentleness and clarity. So to get to authenticity, you really keep going down to the bone, to the honesty, and the inevitability of something."
~Meredith Monk

Being authentic at times takes more work than we might imagine. It takes overcoming social pressures and patterns that have been ingrained into our behaviors over a lifetime, as we peel them away and come to that inner place of genuine honesty.

What great qualities Meredith Monk suggests! Gentleness. Clarity. But without being willing to peel back the layers of the habitual, we might never get there. Throughout this summer, as the pace slows for many in our community, I am hopeful that this will create an opportunity for us all to stop and ask ourselves if we are being truly and deeply authentic.

Next week, most of the Cabinet and I will be in Columbus, Ohio at the Authentic Leadership in Action conference (at the ALIA Institute). Our desire is to learn a variety of techniques to assist us in developing our skills in this area, and in assisting us to assess our own leadership models. Provost Sigman will be here and can handle questions you may have. Our executive leadership team is committed to self-development to authenticity and to determining how we can enhance ourselves first and then our teams.

Appreciations

I want to give a special thank you to Cathy Chen-Ortega for all of her hard work and diligence over the last 15 months. Cathy has been a key part of our success in the President's Office, and as many of you saw earlier today, will be leaving for a new position. Her last day will be July 7.

Cathy has provided a spirit of positive encouragement to the entire university and has been a bright spot in the day of many of us. I want to wish her well, and to thank her for

the thousands of ways she went the extra mile to make the Office of the President both professional and yet inviting.

I also want to thank Adrian Chofor for her tremendous work in raising the standards for presidential events. Her integrity, character and efforts have assisted our office in having better events for the Naropa community. As she heads to North Dakota we wish her well and I want to thank both Cathy and Adrian for their hard work.

Remember, if you want to nominate someone for an appreciation, just respond to this e mail.

Search for our Chief Financial Officer

I mentioned in last week's letter that I have concluded that our CFO search is considered a failed search. I am continuing so consider a number of options, but several people inquired as to whether or not we will include the community when we do bring another round of candidates to campus; the answer is yes. We will invite the community to meet any future candidates for this position.

Interim Provost Interviews

You may have noted that we brought some candidates for the Interim Provost position to campus this week. Three candidates (one withdrew) have been on campus this week to meet with faculty, administration and me to determine fit for this important position. We want to keep you apprised of this search and I expect to make a decision by the end of next week.

Campus Space Planning

A few weeks ago, we held a community meeting to discuss some of the phases of our campus planning. As we move forward with Phase 2 of the planning, I have asked Todd Kilburn to convene various stakeholders within the campus to gain feedback and input and to serve as the point person to interact with the community on this project. Todd will be traveling both at conferences and for a few days vacation until July 12, and will be putting out a call to key stakeholders to bring us together, garner input and make recommendations to me. If you have questions or concerns about this project, you may write to him at TKilburn@naropa.edu.

Shambhala Sun

I was recently asked to write an article for *Shambhala Sun* magazine. If you are interested in reading it, you can find the article at <http://www.naropa.edu/news/july2011-lord--shambhala-sun.pdf>

Wednesday Community Lunch

I also want to remind the community that every Wednesday during the summer, all offices are closed from noon to 1 pm for our community lunch hour. During this time it is my hope that people gather, laugh, and play. We have a beautiful community and this is our time to enjoy each other. Please plan on spending time as a community for lunch!

University Budget

Today, the Board of Trustees passed the 2011-2012 Budget. This budget includes a number of priorities embedded in our strategic plan including pay increases for faculty, adjunct faculty and staff as well as other investments in our people, maintaining a contingency fund and continuing to enhance our operations. More details will follow, but I am delighted to announce this successful work.

I want to especially thank Brian Bissell for guiding the budget to the board and for helping to build sustainable budgets to put Naropa on a more solid foundation for the future. I also wish to thank his team in the finance department for their superb work at helping prepare and oversee our budgeting process.

No Friday Letter Next Week

Because the Cabinet and I will be at the Authentic Leadership in Action conference in Ohio next week, there will be no Friday Letter next Friday, July 1. I wish you all a happy and safe 4th of July weekend!

Thank you all for the ways you authentically reach out to one another and to me!

Go Naropa!

In the spirit of service,

Stuart C. Lord
President

Share your thoughts: Presidentlord@naropa.edu