Neff Center  ► Jacob disseminated a 2013-14 Year in Review handout highlighting aspects of the Beecher and UM-Flint partnership and some of the activities that have occurred at the Neff Center. He noted in particular the College Readiness Program, the Discovering Place (Beecher’s outdoor classroom), and a program partnered with EOI called Gear Up. Jacob indicated that initially we had identified four goals in partnering with Beecher: making a difference with parents, improved State test scores, retention and graduation, and support and connecting with teachers. He explained that we are revisiting those goals and would like to go to the next phase of solidifying the partnership by engaging in the community, i.e. parent groups. Jacob indicated that there is a wide variety of opportunities for our faculty and staff and he is seeking input from units regarding how they could be involved. He further said that we have to move the program beyond Outreach so he does not want to define next steps, but clarified that Outreach can help in facilitating the next steps.

Much discussion took place and ideas and/or suggestions were discussed. Jacob explained that he has tried to work with individuals and/or groups, for example, in garnering tutors; however, that has not worked and he is seeking leverage and resources to engage the campus in next steps. Part of the problem is that individuals are struggling to see the alignment of the program with campus goals. He wants to make sure that whatever is planned as next steps is a benefit to the University as well as Beecher. The possibility of an Early College in the Arts was discussed as well as a proto-type of a Center for Multi-Cultural Programs where alums are involved. The idea of student activist groups participating has been tried but has not been too successful. Jacob also mentioned that dual enrollment was tried but was not much of a success there as well. Jacob indicated that one of the positive characteristics of Beecher is that they are open and appreciative to any kind of help.

Vahid said that if you look statistically at things like the high school graduate college ready percentages, average SAT scores, and literacy rates, these are all areas that need to be addressed. Chris indicated that she has coordinated a Teaching Circle regarding Poverty in Education that will be held tomorrow and invited Jacob to attend. She indicated that there seems to be a great interest and we might be able to work from this venue. In addition, Bob and Jacob will work together in the next couple of weeks to look at the big picture and develop some themes.
BCP Update ► Mike reported that when he met with the Deans about a year ago, we discussed the revised template and conducted a pilot to see how the document could be improved. He disseminated the revised UM-Flint Unit Continuity of Operations Plan template. He indicated that the goal is to continually improve continuity planning across the institution. He explained that the next steps will be to have the plan available online. Mike reviewed the document with Deans calling attention to the following areas:

- Leadership Succession. He indicated that this is an important area and should be part of your plan in case you would not be available.
- Page 6 – Additional components were added such as Seasonality, Maximum Allowable Downtime, and Critical IT needs. He explained that when we update our plans we should think in terms of a 72-hour down time and how that would affect our unit.
- Page 7 – Staffing. Mike said that specific staff needs in terms of skills should be identified as well as identifying critical people in your area.
- Page 10 – Communication Plan. Consider not only internal within your area, but the need to communicate with other UM-Flint individuals and/or units. If the communication needs require external, then it needs to go through University Relations.
- Page 14 – Section 10 – Mike suggested that a test should be scheduled to go through your emergency plan even if it is discussion in a meeting.

Mike announced that units will be required to complete and submit Sections 1, 2, and 3 of their Continuity Plan by November 30 and that the remainder the their plan is due no later than May 1. He closed by saying that once Critical Staff are identified in your plan, each of them will receive a letter from HR indicating that they have been identified as a critical staff member. Mike will send an electronic version of the updated Continuity Plan template to Sue and she will disseminate it to Deans.

Approval of Minutes from September 25 and October 9 ► The approval of the Minutes from September 25 and October 9 were tabled until the next meeting.

Academy on Persistence and Completion Update ► Chris reported that the team for Student Persistence and Completion just returned from the HLC Academy Roundtable in St. Charles, Illinois, and part of their participation included developing the draft Plan for Student Persistence and Completion on behalf of the University which she disseminated. She explained that the task was to answer the three questions contained within the document. She indicated that she met with the Chancellor, Mary Jo Sekelsky, and Gerard to gather their input which she will run by the Academy Team. One suggestion was to develop a robust early alert system for students who are having difficulty. Discussion ensued regarding how to describe those students who are in the “academic middle” or to simply describe that group by defining them in terms of statistics, i.e. GPA, etc. The consensus was to not tag them with a name, but to simply define that group. There was also general consensus that each student should receive a four-year plan regarding their degree even if it takes longer. Chris asked the Deans to send her any input regarding the proposal by tomorrow.

Michigan Transfer Agreement Update ► Chris indicated that she is still in need of hearing from two units regarding whether their Executive Committees were in favor of the proposed MTA Implementation Plan. She stressed that we are behind in our plans and need to make sure that we get this in place for our students coming in December.

Student Success Center Faculty Fellows Update ► Chris announced that in preparation for Fall 2015, the Student Success Center sent out a call for Faculty Fellows. Three applications were received and each one was stellar. She indicated that they all included studies and/or recommendations including using data comprehensively and all having very positive information on minority and underserved enrollment populations.

Matters Arising ► No items were mentioned.

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.