

# Ferris State University

## President's Council

### Meeting Summary

July 8, 2020

9:00 a.m., Zoom

#### Attendance:

Bachmeier, Eisler, Huisman, Johnson, Halko (for McCrackin), Percy, Pilgrim, Postema, Ward-Roof

#### Agenda Items:

- June 24, 2020 Meeting Summary approved for posting.
- **Budget and Severance**
  - When the State finalized last year's budget, it included a base reduction of the higher education budget of 11%. In the past this has often meant the next budget cycle started from this reduced base. While not confirmed, this could be a likely scenario.
  - VP Bachmeier provided an update on AFSCME employees, noting there are several interested in taking the severance package. This will create the shifting of positions. The timeline for finalizing this agreement was discussed.
  - VP Postema provided an update on Clerical Technical employees. This will also create some shifting of individuals to other areas. Workloads will be an issue to be addressed. The timeline for finalizing this agreement was discussed.
  - Interim Provost Johnson provided an update on faculty members who had elected for the Voluntary Separation Agreement, reporting there have been some rescissions.
  - All VP's are asked to share with the President their timeline on severances in the area, their timeline for each individual, and to follow a standard approach coordinated with HR and Miles Postema.
- **Policy Review Process** – VP Ward-Roof reviewed the proposed process and a five-year timeline for policy review. Responsibility will be housed in the President's Office. Karen Huisman will be coordinator of this area. A review of the web page where the policies are located was made. VPs should review their respective areas to be sure nothing is missing.
- **Academic Integrity Policy** – Interim VP Johnson opened discussion on the proposed policy. This policy will be posted for public comment on the web. This policy will be shared with all faculty at the university.
- **Academic Misconduct Resolution Process** – Interim VP Johnson opened discussion on the proposed process. Recommendations were made. After revisions this policy will be posted for public comment on the web. This policy will be shared with all faculty.

- **Re-entry to Campus** – VP Ward-Roof provided an update on re-entry activities.
  - Council members discussed Personal Protection Equipment already received and expectations for delivery/installation of other items. Individuals are to connect with their Key Custodian for more supplies.
  - Components and requirements of the re-entry process were discussed.
  - An email will be sent today with a variety of information and links including re-entry to campus and re-engagement plans.
  - Timeline and communication regarding the Student Hardship Fund was discussed. The council agreed to the proposed closing of the Student Hardship Fund campaign on July 17<sup>th</sup>, then utilizing other forms of support for the students.
  - Family and Friends Weekends are being reconfigured to address the current health climate, giving parents options to connect with the students while they are here.
  - Current plans are to continue Town Hall meetings at one per month.
  
- **Round Robin**
  - **VP Pilgrim** – Byron Brooks has organized a group to address race relations issues among Ferris students and between the students and community, among other things. Casey Thompson is helping. VP Pilgrim will keep the council informed regarding this. He is working with C-Span on doing a Zoom tour of the museum, and efforts are being made to improve the connectivity at the museum. There is an upcoming meeting with Steelcase. National interviews are continuing.
  - **VP Ward-Roof** – Big Rapids High School is interested in holding their commencement in August at the campus, either at Top Taggart or on the Quad.
  - **Interim Dean Halko** – The artist commissioned to do the work on the windows has started and plans to continue his involvement with the project and students upon completion. Everything is going well.
  - **Interim VP Johnson** – Work continues on reassigning classes to non-instructional spaces. Currently working on moving classes out of Bishop Hall.
  - **President Eisler** – Thank you to everyone for your efforts during these challenging times.

Meeting adjourned 10:15 am

Submitted by Karen K. Huisman