

Discussion Notes of a Meeting of the
Leadership Council
Wednesday, September 3, 2003
Timme Center for Student Services

Call to Order

President David L. Eisler called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

In Attendance

Dan Burcham, Richard Cochran, James Cook, Rick Duffett, Dave Eisler, Oliver Evans, Raymond Gant, Jason Granger, Rick Griffin, Scott Hill-Kennedy, Jacqueline Hooper, Judith Issette, Tom Oldfield, Karen Paine, Bill Papo, and Tom Weaver.

Membership and Meeting Schedule - The group membership was reviewed. The intent is to keep this group relatively small with additional attendees invited as needed. The group will meet on the first Wednesday of each month in CSS 302. Discussion notes of the meetings will be posted on the Web after review by the Council's membership

Customer Service Issues - Tom Weaver presented a concern regarding customer service issues during orientation. With free meals for parents, the numbers exceeded the capacity of one dining facility to handle effectively. He requested consideration of opening more units during this period. Tom Weaver also expressed concern regarding the extra stress on facilities increased numbers of students can create.

IT Matters. Richard Cochran distributed *IT Matters*. Discussion included an update on the Technology Assistance Center and the address of such problems as the recent virus issues. Additional discussion included notification to employees of a virus or other problems, and the need for a campus-wide plan of response. The campus is strongly encouraged to download current software patches and to back up important files to another media.

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Study Group. Richard Cochran provided an update of work completed by the ERP Study Group. Results from this process can be viewed on the group's website on the FSU intranet. Additional demonstrations of the Banner software project will be scheduled shortly.

MS Campus Software License. Richard Cochran reported that the Microsoft Campus Software License for the students has been extended for one year. Future funding of this effort will be reviewed during the year.

Faculty Recruitment and Other Positions. Richard Griffin presented concerns regarding the number of contract faculty. This includes difficulty in filling tenure-track positions and some full-time positions that have been replaced with temporary positions.

State Funding. The state tax receipts did not meet expectation in July. Dave Eisler reported that the University would continue to monitor and report on any activities in this area.

Enrollment Report. An enrollment report and summary was distributed for discussion. Items highlighted included the increase in on-campus students of 448; the difference new programs made in increased enrollment; and this is the 2nd largest surge of enrollment in the University's history (the largest surge was in 1966). Dave Eisler drew attention to the increase in retention rates and in entering GPAs. Raymond Gant raised questions regarding potential declines in the number of African American students. Dan Burcham believes that further analysis of the multicultural classification of students will suggest that there is an increase in students of color at Ferris.

Kendall College of Art and Design. Oliver Evans provided an overview on Kendall's increased enrollment. The number of new students at Kendall is remaining fairly constant; there is an increase in the number of returning students; and an increase in credit hours per student.

Academic Senate. Bill Papo reported faculty members were sent the proposed changes in the general ed requirements, and the Academic Senate would like to encourage conversation and receive a wide variety of input regarding the requirements, including Kendall's perspective.

Insurance, Vending, and Parking. Jim Cook expressed concern regarding the differing costs for similar insurance coverage for various units across campus who participate in the Ferris Flex program. He noted the lack of products and proper service information on some of the vending machines on campus. He also expressed concern regarding future planning of parking places for students.

Birkam Health Center. Judy Issette distributed a Birkam Health Center statistical report for discussion. Discussion included an overview of the statistics as presented, and the current focus at the Health Center on immunization upgrades and physicals.

Student Government. Jason Granger reported that the Student Government is ready to move forward on student activity fees.

Start Times for Leadership Council Meetings. The council reached consensus that an 8:30 a.m. start time would work best for everyone, with an estimated meeting time of 1.5 hours.

The Council adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Leadership Council is scheduled for Wednesday, October 1, 2003 at 8:30 a.m. in CSS 302.

Submitted by: Karen K. Paine