

Approved March 1, 2006

Discussion Notes of a Meeting of the
Leadership Council
Wednesday, February 1, 2006
Timme Center for Student Services

Call to Order

President David L. Eisler called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

In Attendance

Dan Burcham, Rick Duffett, Dave Eisler, Raymond Gant, Jonathan Gaskell, Don Green, Michael Harris, Judy Issette, Karen Paine, Miles Postema, Mike Ryan, and Allen Sutherby.

Discussion Notes - the Discussion Notes from the 1/11/06 meeting were reviewed. No changes were noted.

Administration and Finance - Rick Duffett reported that both the Banner Project implementation and the IRC project continue to move along well. He reported that the pictures from the classroom renovations that were completed through Christmas can be viewed through the Academic Affairs website.

University Advancement and Marketing - Rick Duffett reported on the out of state activities for advancement and alumni relations. He indicated that the advancement video is being well received and that the Ferris Foundation Board activities continue, with new members to the board and significant commitments of time and resources to the University.

Faculty Training on Banner - Mike Ryan inquired about faculty training on Banner. Rick Duffett noted that the steering and implementation committees have strong representation from academics. He will have further discussion with Suzette Compton to address concerns regarding faculty training

Student Affairs - Dan Burcham reported on new student receptions to be held in February. The Martin Luther King week of events went very well, with an excellent discussion regarding the film, "CRASH." He shared two new types of transfer scholarships and talked about work with the Foundation on need based scholarships. The transfer scholarships are designed for the Big Rapids campus and will take effect Fall semester.

Birkam Health Center – Judy Issette distributed a report and provided an overview of the statistical information of the activities at the Health Center. She reported on the current training schedule for HIV certifications and the updating of the Health Center's treatment room. She noted that Paul Sullivan is chairing the Communicable Disease Task Force. In response to an inquiry from Mike Ryan, Judy reported that the AIDS counseling had previously been provided through the Health Department, but now the Health Center has received the training required to perform AIDS counseling there.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel – Miles Postema reported that his office is gearing up for the Friends of Ferris event on February 18. He noted that there are still more tickets available and more auction items would be appreciated. He extended his appreciation for those who were able to attend Governor Granholm's visit to Big Rapids. President Eisler noted that the Governor did leave a very nice message on his voice mail. Miles reported that all the candidates for the Labor Relations position have been interviewed, and the Governmental Relations position search is narrowing.

Ferris Faculty Association – Mike Ryan reported that contract maintenance is going well. He noted that the process for this year's Sabbatical Leave requests was much improved over last year. He reported that the negotiating team has reviewed 137 pages of the collective bargaining agreement. He has been in contact with Jim Greene to determine a date for a meeting and feels positive that a time and date should work out. Mike reported that he met with Paul Sullivan, Chris Weber, and Mike McKay regarding the Communicable Disease Task Force. He was impressed with the status of their structure and their means of communication, and he was pleased that they have a good basis to move forward.

Clerical Technical Association – Allen Sutherby noted there was nothing substantial to report on behalf of the Clerical Technical Association. He is interested in enrollment, however, as he has a senior enrolling this fall.

Student Government – Jon Gaskell provided an update on the activities of the Student Government. He reported on their activities of researching textbooks to reduce cost; researching readership on campus to get free copies of USA Today and the Wall Street Journal; the compilation of a list of different housing on and off campus for student choices; and the results of their research on parking ticket revenue and budget. He noted that the Student Government supports the new graphic standards. Regarding the University's inclement weather policy, Jon noted that the students would like to encourage faculty to take appropriate action, if necessary, in order to cancel classes. Dave Eisler provided an overview of the issues and timing involved regarding the type of recent severe weather conditions and the decision-making process of such an event. He noted that the administration continues to review the most recent weather incident and encouraged input from all areas. Jon noted there is one final piece of legislation to be discussed this evening regarding heat-activated entry for the handicapped and future installations of accessible door openers. Miles Postema reported that there has been substantial work done regarding this issue, and he has scheduled a meeting with the disabled student organization. Miles

inquired if someone from the Student Government would be available to attend, and Jon noted that Joel will be attending the meeting.

FSU Grand Rapids – Don Green reported that they are building partnerships with sister television stations in the Grand Rapids area and have developed partnerships with 6-7 different organizations, working collaboratively, for advertising. The strength in this effort is to have opportunities to provide information about career opportunities and development. They are looking for students and faculty that are in unique programs that will lead to interesting careers to assist in this advertising/marketing venture.

Minority Affairs – Raymond Gant reported that the Martin Luther King week of activities were very successful and extended his appreciation for the efforts of the co-chairs and for the funding from the President's Office. He reported that there has been some discussion at the state level regarding the King Chavez Parks program. He reported that SEMBAA is doing very well, hosting 3 events: a social event in Detroit in February, an event at the Detroit Repertory Theatre on March 11, and a Pistons game with the Nicks on Easter Sunday. He expressed his appreciation of the work the black alumni has done in Detroit. Raymond reported that his book is sold out with all the proceeds from the book set aside for scholarships. The book will go into second print. Raymond extended his sincerest appreciation of the University's people and their diversity of thought, and he encouraged everyone to talk about how we, as a University, value diversity and take those thoughts and actions back to our individual areas. He encouraged the University to look at prospective employees not only for their skills, but to look at those with new perspectives and knowledge. Dave Eisler extended his appreciation of Raymond's work with SEMBAA.

Academic Affairs – Michael Harris reported that Ellen Haneline will serve as Interim Dean of the College of Allied Health Sciences, and the search for a new Dean will begin in the fall. The College of Technology Dean search will be bringing 3 or 4 finalists to campus very soon. Everyone will have an opportunity to meet them. They have just completed the reappointments of faculty, approved sabbaticals, and are busy with unit action planning. He reported that active discussion continues regarding assessment and its impact on curriculum development.

President's Update – Dave Eisler provided an update on the statewide media attention regarding waste in colleges and noted that Ferris State University was not mentioned. He shared comments he has received on the University's new marketing strategies, including positive remarks about our billboards, bus boards, etc. He reported the University will continue to take action to move toward a linear tuition model, and there has been very good response to the Veterans Scholarship Program, with 35 new students entering this semester that are veterans.

At 9:44 a.m., the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Karen K. Paine