

Discussion Notes of a Meeting of the
Leadership Council
Wednesday, November 3, 2004
Timme Center for Student Services

Call to Order

President David L. Eisler called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

In Attendance

Dan Burcham, Rick Duffett, Dave Eisler, Raymond Gant, Rick Griffin, Scott Hill-Kennedy, Maria Knirk, Tom Oldfield, Karen Paine, Allen Sutherby, Amanda Umlandt, and Tom Weaver.

AFSCME - Tom Weaver reported that the tentative collective bargaining agreement between FSU and AFSCME was ratified by AFSCME last evening. Tom indicated while the members did vote in favor of the agreement, he and other members were not totally satisfied with the final agreement. Health insurance will continue to be an issue. He extended his appreciation to Sally DePew and Scott Hill-Kennedy for their hard work on this matter. He encouraged all to be proactive and to work collectively to find a solution to our health insurance issues.

Tom expressed his disapproval of his recent call to visit Public Safety prior to the October 22 Board meeting. He also indicated concerns regarding poor communications to employees about their health plans, and employees receiving conflicting information from different areas. Scott Hill-Kennedy extended his appreciation to Tom Weaver on finalizing the AFSCME collective bargaining agreement. Dave Eisler extended his appreciation to Tom, and his appreciation that the tentative agreement was ratified.

Student Government - Dave Eisler introduced the newly-elected President of the FSU Student Government, Maria Knirk, whose term begins January 1, 2005. Amanda Umlandt, current President of FSU Student Government, provided an update on Student Government. Her discussion included:

- Elections went very well, with a remarkable increase in voter turnout
- Student Government goals are being addressed
- Noticeable increase in attendance at meetings
- New bus system is experiencing a slow but steady increase in riders - should increase as winter weather arrives
- Public Safety will allow shuttle schedule to be placed inside parking ticket envelopes
- Will be distributing a survey through MyFSU to help increase usage and visibility of Rankin Center

Dave Eisler inquired if there currently is a web page containing the shuttle bus information, and if not, offered his assistance in having one prepared. He also extended his appreciation to the students for their efforts with the shuttle bus service.

Rick Duffett reported that he will be gathering information from the Student Government this Thursday after the master planning session.

Ferris Faculty Association - Rick Griffin reported on his attendance at an American Democracy Project meeting in Philadelphia regarding the First Year Experience. He noted that John Gardner, the consultant for the meeting, personally congratulated Ferris as being a fine model for the First Year Experience.

Academic Affairs update - Tom Oldfield reported that they are working on two employment searches (Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences); working on a state grant to develop an entrepreneurship curriculum for 11th and 12th graders; addressing issues of moving the schedule book to online; and, new links on the web now provide much improved access to information.

Minority Affairs update - Raymond Gant reported that this year's Homecoming was a great success. Additional discussion included turnout for the bowling event, excellent feedback from alumni on the events, Hispanic Heritage month events, and weekend activities by Brophy Hall for Native American month. Raymond is working with Jimmie Rodgers on building relationships with the Charter Schools.

Student Affairs update - Dan Burcham reported that applications are strong and ahead of last year. Judicial Services reports that infractions this fall are reduced from last year. Rick Duffett reported that the residence hall student count is down about 150 students. The community policing program is working well - public safety officers are more visible. Raymond Gant extended his appreciation that the University's Public Safety officers are very approachable, which is good for the community. Tom Weaver reported concerns about an identification issue regarding an AFSCME employee. He reported that all AFSCME workers have proper identification and are more than willing to produce them. It was recommended that students be encouraged to ask for proper identification when the FSU workers are working in the residence halls.

Clerical Technical Association update - Allen Sutherby reported that insurance will most likely be the main issue when the Clerical Technical negotiations begin. He reported on an issue with an off-campus employee in Flint regarding insurance. The current CTA contract expires in June 2005.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel update - Scott Hill-Kennedy provided an update on FSU alumni included in yesterday's elections, and the effect of the elections on the seats in the Michigan House of Representatives.

President's update – Dave Eisler provided discussion on the following:

- Appreciation of Homecoming events and hard work by all
- Friday night opening of Polar Express – backdrops made by students at Kendall
- College of Optometry fundraising
- Deans Scholarship reinstated
- Bus trips for student recruitment
- Last Saturday's Dawg Days event was one of the largest ever
- Pistons opening game alumni event – 110 alumni in attendance
- Campus Master Plan update – Ken Neumann to present tomorrow at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the Dome Room

Administrative Affairs - Campus Master Plan – Rick Duffett distributed a Draft Master Plan document for review and discussion, and reported that there will be a schedule of informational meetings for the campus. Discussion included:

- Activities and facilities are prioritized over the next 5 years
- Capital Outlay Project – College of Optometry – funding, description of facilities needed, program costs, enrollment
- Pennock Hall options
- Partnership development for student housing
- College of Education and Human Services, academic connection to Arts & Sciences
- Future use of facilities – classroom development
- Connection of facilities
- Parking and property allocation
- Building materials and maintenance
- Site alternatives
- Estimate Master Plan will be forwarded to Board of Trustees in early February 2005

Seattle's Best Coffee Shop in Rankin Center was commended during a conference in Boston. This facility goes through 300 lbs. of coffee per month.

Tom Weaver requested the consideration of the University in assigning some projects to University employees when looking at renovations and building new facilities.

Health Insurance - Tom Weaver reported that he made a promise to the AFSCME members that he would be proactive and work with any and all groups necessary in addressing the issue of health care. Rick Duffett provided discussion regarding the Michigan Universities Coalition on Health.

At 9:59 a.m., the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by: Karen K. Paine