

**President's Council
Meeting Summary
February 1, 2012
9:00 a.m., CSS 301C**

Attendance:

Armstrong, Cairns for Burcham, Davison-Wilson, Eisler, Erickson, Evans, Green, Kamptner, Postema, Scoby

Action Item:

- The summary from the January 18, 2012 PC meeting was approved for posting.

Topic/Discussion Items:

- Legislative
President Eisler reported that the Senate Education Committee testimony on the community college bill went well. Rep. Genetski has requested a meeting tomorrow regarding performance funding. The President met with Sen. Whitmer last week to discuss college tuition funding. The State budget will be presented February 9. PCSUM will be meeting with Doug Rothwell and holding a press conference on higher education funding later this month. The March 15th Lansing Legislative Luncheon is well-timed.
- Board of Trustees: Feb. 24 Committees
Guest: Karen Obermier
Council members reviewed topics to be shared with the Board of Trustees at the February 24th Finance Committee and Academic/Student Affairs Committee. A special Board meeting may be held prior to or following the committee meetings.
- Controlling Costs
Guest: Sally DePew
President Eisler shared that the Board members appreciated discussing student loan debt information at the January working session. He will be leading with a message in a University-wide memo and will hold one or two open forums to bring the topic to the University community. Vice presidents will develop an approach to engage all employees in the conversation, including reducing time to degree, reducing costs and increasing scholarships. Budget Director DePew provided additional examples of Ferris students' loan costs.
- Housing and Dining
VP Scoby distributed housing and dining recommendations from the consultant SCION. There will be a phase-in of the approved recommendations. Conversations will continue; to begin the phasing, some decisions must be made at the next Council meeting.
- Carlisle/Masselink
VP Scoby distributed a potential timeline of major pieces for the University Center renovation. Members discussed the demolition of Carlisle and Masselink; for cost savings, the buildings will be demolished at the same time and there will be a combination of available options.

- **University Center Scope**
VP Scoby provided the sub-group work document regarding the University Center renovation project scope. Council members approved the document, specifically what will not be included in the project design, and the committee membership.
- **Wellness Program**
VP Scoby shared wellness program cost estimates and an update on potential contract options. VPs Davison-Wilson and Green reported on their discussions with the YMCA for a similar program in Grand Rapids and other locations. Council members renewed their commitment to a program and approved for work on the Wellness Program continue to move forward.
- **Other**
 - AVP Cairns provided the Fall 2012 application data. He also reported on the excellent turn out for the Engineering Technology Dawg Day and positive survey results from students regarding their Dawg Day experience.
 - VP Armstrong reported that there are 300 reservations for the Pharmacy Opening on Feb. 3; she then provided copies of the billboard, bus wrap, and other ads in the current marketing roll-out.
 - Provost Erickson expressed his appreciation for the billboards in Spanish as he is working to start the Center for Latino Studies. The new Dean of FLITE will be announced Thursday.
 - VP Postema reminded of the Feb. 24th Friends of Ferris Dinner/Auction and March 15th Lansing Legislative Luncheon dates.
 - VP Green is pleased to be talking with Kendall regarding expanding international operations to Grand Rapids.
 - VP Davison-Wilson continues to work on details on the Federal Building. There will be a soft opening on May 1st. She also announced that she will present to NACUBO with Christman Company.
 - VP Scoby stated that he will participate in a call with Standard & Poors regarding our credit rating; he appreciates all the assistance from across campus in preparing data.
 - President Eisler reiterated the importance of Friends of Ferris and shared that Ferris is seen in a positive light in Lansing. There have been good connections made at several events in Grand Rapids lately. He then provided an update on the Kendall president search.

Next meeting dates:

Wednesday, February 1, 9am-noon, CSS 310C (regular meeting)

Meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner