

President's Council
Meeting Summary
March 16, 2011
8:30 a.m., CSS 301C

Attendance: Burcham, Davison-Wilson, Eisler, Erickson, Evans, Green, Kamptner, Pilgrim, Postema, Scoby, Willey

Action Item: The summary from the March 4, 2011 PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- **Federal and State Legislative Updates**
President Eisler shared an update regarding state and federal budgets based on his recent meetings in Lansing and Washington DC.
- **Budget Reductions**
Ferris will implement phase 2, 3 and 4 reductions based on the Governor's proposed budget of a 15% reduction to higher education. Positions identified for reduction will not roll into the new fiscal year; FY '12 base budget allocations will be reduced accordingly.
- **Board of Trustees**
Council members discussed topics for the March 25 working session and reviewed the full meeting agenda.
- **Grand Rapids Bus Project Survey/Recommendations**
VP Scoby distributed a draft Status Report and recommendations from the bus task force. Council discussed options and feasibility of a transportation service between Big Rapids and Grand Rapids, and agreed on a willingness to move forward with plans and commitment to subsidize the project for at least two years, based on ridership, for 2 trips per day, five days per week. The announcement and plans must be ready before end of this semester. VP Scoby will share Council's thanks with the committee.
- **Health Insurance Recommendations**
VP Scoby provided a draft of health insurance enrollment and rates. Additional data will be received and modeling will be completed before approval
- **Enrollment**
VP Burcham provided Fall 2011 applications and admits by campus and college. Enrollment remains very strong for fall semester.
- **Diversity and Inclusion**
VP Pilgrim reported that Ferris is advertising and enrolling every position on the diversityeducation.com Web site; a TDMP 464 class is working on a video "There's a Home for You at Ferris"; some search committees are already using the Diverse Workforce Task Force report recommendations; VP Pilgrim will be leading a supervisory training later this week; there is

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encouraging collaboration among student groups, providing good programming; and there is potential for a paying relationship with the Department of Defense for the Jim Crow Museum.

- Other
 - President Evans mentioned the excellent connections and supporting structure of Kendall graduates.
 - VP Burcham distributed “Behind the News” regarding putting students to work.
 - Provost Erickson updated Council on the work of the academic organization review committee and the Pharmacy project in Grand Rapids.
 - President Eisler distributed the most recent draft agenda of the Share Your Success sessions, requesting that VPs and deans attend their sessions and inviting all to attend any other session. He also requested that members send summer calendars so that May-August meetings may be scheduled.

Next meeting date: April 6, 9am-12:00pm (Good News due April 1), CSS 301C

Meeting adjourned 12:20 p.m.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner