

President's Council
Meeting Summary
March 17, 2010
8:30 a.m., CSS 301C

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

Action Item: The summary from the March 3rd PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- Lansing Update and Budget and Planning Issues
Guest: Sally DePew
 - President Eisler reported on the March 8th Senate Higher Education Appropriation Subcommittee testimony at Ferris State University and the March 16th House Higher Education Appropriation Subcommittee Tuition Incentive Program testimony in Lansing. The TIP testimony included student Melissa DiVietri and “TIP Lady” Jennifer Wallace. The House Higher Education Appropriation Subcommittee hearing for Ferris is scheduled for the morning of April 27th in Lansing; more details will be forthcoming.
 - The President then shared updates from Lansing regarding state budget discussions. Council members continued strategic discussions of budget reduction options for the University and the impact of the Early Retirement Incentive.
 - Annual Planning documents are due mid-April to vice presidents, who will share them with the President. Council members will present and discuss divisional documents in May.

- “Share Your Success” Sessions
Guest: Sally DePew
President Eisler provided an updated chart of the 2010 “Share Your Success” Sessions. The President will offer a quick introduction, and then listen; we will capture the content for each session.

- Administrative Evaluations
President Eisler presented an approach for vice presidential performance evaluations similar to the process used for his evaluation for the Board of Trustees. A communication will be sent to the University community describing the procedure prior to starting the process with the first vice president, which will begin before the end of this semester.

- Health Insurance Plan Changes & Premium Increases
VP Scoby distributed FY'11 MUCH and Priority health insurance plan design options and recommendations for Council members to review and discuss. VP Scoby will communicate with the appropriate affected groups before a decision is made.

- BOT April 9th Meeting
Guest: Sally DePew and Karen Obermier
President Eisler provided a draft agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting for review, amendment and discussion. A working session will precede the meeting and there may be a tour of East Campus Suites.

- **Billing, Receipt Handling and Deposits Policy**
Guest: Sally DePew
VP Scoby brought forward the Billing, Receipt Handling and Deposits Policy with minor clean up language and formatting changes. VP Willey and Provost Erickson will collaborate to improve the process of transmitting in-kind gift information to the Advancement Office. Council approved the policy; it may be operationalized immediately.
- **Petty Cash, Stop Payments and Returned Checks Policy**
Guest: Sally DePew
VP Scoby presented the Petty Cash, Stop Payments and Returned Checks Policy. This policy language was removed from the Billing, Receipt Handling and Deposits Policy and has minor clean up language and formatting changes. Council approved the policy; it may be operationalized immediately.
- **Business & Special Expense Policy**
Guest: Sally DePew
VP Scoby distributed the Business and Special Expenses Policy and appendix. Dean's Council will review this policy on March 23rd and share their discussion and recommendations. This policy will return to Council in April.
- **PC Replacement Recommendation**
Guest: Sally DePew
VP Scoby reminded Council that last year the computer replacement schedule was postponed due to budget constraints. It was explained that if we fall too far behind, there is a concern that it will be very difficult to find the funding to replace all computers later. The recommendation is to return to a scaled-down PC replacement schedule this summer involving 256 computers. Council approved the plan.
- **New Carryover Accounts**
Guest: Sally DePew
VP Scoby shared issues and considerations of a carryover separate account initiative. VPs will provide the number of separate accounts that each will need to accomplish their budgeting goals. Council members thanked him for the help in managing budgets and carryover funds.
- **Diversity and Inclusion Office**
CDO Pilgrim distributed "Expect Diverstiy" newsletter. He will be presenting a Diversity Plan update to the Board of Trustees at the April 9th meeting. CDO Pilgrim shared comments and thoughts that he will be prepared to tell the Trustees.
- **Enrollment**
VP Burcham distributed data on the Fall 2010 enrollment applications.
- **Other**
VC Davison-Wilson provided an update on the Federal Building conversations and project. She mentioned the good working relationship between Ferris/Kendall, Christman, and the City of Grand Rapids. VP Willey is pleased at connections made with Tim Wondergem, who can assist with announcements in Grand Rapids. He also mentioned the alumni reception and the playoff hockey game at The Joe this weekend, as well as, his delight that Ferris is supporting Pure Michigan. VP Scoby stated that the Pedestrian Safety Task Force is ready for a pre-release to SPARC. VP Burcham told that the WILL Conference was full and very successful. The Big Event is scheduled for April 17th and includes 194 hours and 700+ students. There are also several students arranging to clean up downtown Big Rapids for Earth Day. CDO Pilgrim announced that

Approved 4/7/10

the Michigan Supreme Court Justice is coming to be keynote for a mentoring conference on June 6th. Provost Erickson appreciates the extra efforts and dedication by faculty and staff during the recent water issue in Allied Health – in just 4 days, the clean-up was done and the building was ready for classes on Monday. President Eisler thanked Council members for their great work.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, April 7, 2010, 8:30-Noon in CSS 301C, includes an update presentation regarding HLC accreditation.

Meeting adjourned 12:00pm

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner