

President's Council
Meeting Summary
April 18, 2012
9:00 a.m., CSS 301C

Attendance:

Burcham, Davison-Wilson, Eisler, Blake for Erickson, Green, Kamptner, Pilgrim, Postema, Scoby

Action Item:

- The summary from the April 4, 2012 PC meeting was approved for posting.

Topic/Discussion Items:

- Legislative/Budget
Guest: Sally Depew, Budget Director
President Eisler reported that that state budget is headed toward two omnibus bills. CMU has announced a 1.96% tuition increase for Fall 2012. Presidents Martin and Eisler have a meeting scheduled with community college presidents to discuss the community college legislation currently in the Senate Education Committee.
- Costs
Guest: Sally Depew, Budget Director
We have received hundreds of suggestions submitted from faculty, staff and students regarding reducing costs and student debt. President Eisler is creating a draft synthesis that will be distributed to Council members and then shared with the University community for review and comment.
- Board of Trustees
Guest: Sally Depew, Budget Director
There will be a Board working session on Friday, May 4, to discuss tuition rates prior to Commencement ceremonies. If a special meeting is required, it will also be on May 4th.
- Health Insurance Changes
Guest: Sally Depew, Budget Director
Vice President Scoby initiated continued discussion on health insurance benefits/changes. A sub-group of President Eisler, VP Scoby, VP Postema, VP Davison-Wilson and Director DePew will meet on strategy and recommendations. There will be further conversation and decisions made at the May 2 Council meeting.
- University Plan for IT
Vice President Scoby received additional comments regarding the University Plan for IT. Council members approved sending the Plan as an evolving draft to the University community.
- Jim Crow Museum Opening
VP Pilgrim reported that the wire/video release will be coming from the Associated Press very soon. One of the traveling exhibits is in Hartford, Connecticut and receiving many visits. He confirmed the itinerary for the April 26th Jim Crow Museum opening.

- Federal Building Opening
VP Davison-Wilson shared that the Federal Building opening on Tuesday, May 1, will be held in the inside corridor at 4 p.m. with 20-30 minutes of remarks, introduction of David Rosen, comments about student art exhibits, and then tours are available until 7 p.m. Student art will be in both the Kendall and Federal Buildings. Invitations will be mailed tomorrow. An option for the Ferris bus will be investigated to transport the Town/Gown group.
- Schedule
President Eisler reviewed the upcoming meeting schedule. Changes are:
May 2: regular Council meeting
May 14: PC Planning Day #1 and regular meeting agenda items (cancel May 16)
May 21: PC Planning Day #2
June 11: PC Planning Day #3 and regular meeting agenda items (cancel June 4)
- Planning
President Eisler suggested that materials due for the planning sessions will be:
 1. Significant (rather than all ongoing) efforts/accomplishments on the Strategic Plan
 2. VP expectations from 2011-2012
 3. Mutual Appraisal-Appraisal forms
 4. VP expectations for 2012-2013One-on-one meetings for evaluations will be set by the end of June. There were conversations regarding the type of information, number of questions and value added in this process. There will be continued discussion in touch base meetings and a decision about deliverables at the next meeting.
- Fundraising
President Eisler reported that Dr. Patricia Cormier, president emeritus of Longwood University, will be on campus May 7-9 to assess our fundraising and suggest recommendations for possible future efforts, titled *Analysis of the Advancement Function*. The Council will be meeting with her as a group.
- Other
 - AVP Blake stated that Brad McCormick has been appointed as interim chemical hygiene officer and is chair of the Hazardous Substance Awareness & Compliance Committee. They have been very busy collecting chemical safety policies and working on Ferris operational policies.
 - VP Davison-Wilson is pleased that Kendall will be an ArtPrize Exhibition Center – will recruit and juror artworks to be displayed at the Federal and Kendall buildings, be a voter registration location, provide facilities, etc. all as **the** only educational sponsor.
 - VP Burcham reported that the BIG Event was a BIG success. There is discussion of how to spread this volunteerism and action throughout the year. He shared that the student debt conversation has moved to the students, who are increasingly aware. The new Student Government President is Byron Williams.
 - VP Postema suggested that the Big Event be expanded to the Kendall campus for exposure in Grand Rapids.
 - VP Green described some of the events during a successful International Week, including 2,000 attendees at World Quest.
 - VP Pilgrim offered to assist in developing a new Strategic Plan, when the time comes.
 - VP Scoby thanked all for their assistance in getting the rate schedule updated.

- EA Kamptner shared some of the positive comments received from the community regarding our students' attitude and character through the hockey playoffs and the BIG Event. There is great pride in being a Bulldog.
- The University will sponsor the entertainment and a table for ten at the May 18th ArtWorks Gala. Council members should contact Elaine if they want to attend. Senator Carl Levin entered a resolution about Ferris hockey into the Congressional Record – it was a well-written document. President Eisler then shared personal comments regarding the Northern Kentucky University opportunity and decision to remain at Ferris State University.

Next meeting date:

Wednesday, May 2, 9:00 a.m. - Noon, CSS 310C (regular meeting)

Meeting adjourned 12:00 p.m.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner