

President's Council
Meeting Summary
April 21, 2011
8:00 a.m., CSS 301C

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

Action Item: The summary from the March 16, 2011 PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- Higher Learning Commission visit
President Eisler led a conversation concerning the HLC visit and the team's recommendation for a 10-year accreditation. There was very good University-wide participation and engagement.
- Administrative Task Force Recommendations
 - Council members provided suggestions for the Administrative Council Proposal.
 - VP Scoby distributed a recommended Employee Exit Interview Survey. Based on feedback the survey will be edited and implemented. VP Pilgrim offered to assist with those looking at the qualitative data. Council requested that feedback from this instrument be reported annually to PC.
 - VP Burcham shared a recommendation report regarding student workers/internships.
- Board of Trustees
Council members discussed topics for the May 6 Board working session and a proposed special session.
- Grant Procedures Business Policy
VP Scoby and Provost Erickson recommended increasing the threshold limits in the Grant Procedures Policy. Council made suggested changes and approved the document to move forward for the Board of Trustees' July meeting.
- Self-Funded Health Insurance
VP Scoby provided updated drafts of health insurance enrollment and rates for Council review and discussion. Additional scenarios will be presented at the next meeting.
- Grand Rapids to Big Rapids Bus Service
VP Scoby distributed a Status Update on the Grand Rapids to Big Rapids bus service project. Council approved moving forward with the project to start Fall 2011.
- Carryover Funds for Student/Part-time Wages
As of May, Ferris has expended all federal funds for student wages. Central funds of \$200,000 were allocated and distributed for spring and summer to cover this loss. Council will reconsider the need for additional student wage funds and the use of carryover funds at its next meeting.

- Enrollment
VP Burcham provided Fall 2011 registration data. Enrollment remains very strong for fall semester.
- Diversity and Inclusion
VP Pilgrim reminded Council members that OMSS is hosting a 25th Anniversary dinner on April 29th and the annual Pignic on April 30th. He will be speaking to the NAACP and shared that work continues on the Diverse Workforce task force recommendations.
- Legislative/Budget Updates
President Eisler shared an update regarding state budget discussions from Lansing.
- Salary Adjustments/Equity
President Eisler reported that he has received two requests for equity adjustments at this time.
- Summer 2011 PC Schedule
President Eisler will send a document in preparation for the planning sessions; these will be completed in May so that divisional work may be accomplished throughout the summer. The schedule for meetings throughout the spring and summer includes -
 - May 4: 9 a.m. – Noon
 - May 17: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. (all day planning session)
 - May 19: 9 a.m. – Noon (regular meeting)
 - May 24: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. (all day planning session)
 - May 26: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. (hold – will meet on planning if needed)
 - June 14: 9 a.m. – Noon (regular meeting)
 - July 6: 9 a.m. – Noon (regular meeting)
 - August 8: 9 a.m. – Noon (regular meeting)
 - August 17: 9 a.m. – Noon (regular meeting)
- Other
 - VP Pilgrim reported on the positive HLC visit to the Jim Crow Museum.
 - VP Davison was pleased with the visit of HLC team to Kendall. The NASAD accreditation team will be visiting April 25-27 at Kendall.
 - VP Scoby requested suggestions of a location for an extra stop of the GR-BR bus service; members recommended exit 101 on US 131.
 - VP Burcham commented that the HLC open sessions were very good, open and inclusive.
 - VP Postema had a good discussion with HLC in his one-on-one meeting. He also shared an update on the Non-Tenure Association negotiations.
 - Provost Erickson shared that he is working with the Non-Tenured group to list all current faculty in the Commencement program. He is reviewing equity for faculty, the academic organization review process is coming to an end, and will be shared with the University community very soon, and the faculty Voluntary Separation Program process is close to completion.
 - VP Green stated that applications for international students are increasing and the office is looking at a more efficient system. There are many Grand Rapids projects to present to Council. Brochures, ads and Web information for the Ferris Summer University will be out soon.
 - President Eisler announced that two more grants have been approved for the Federal Building from the Steelcase Foundation and from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. He will

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be sharing the Kendall presidential search committee membership soon. He reminded Council of the May 2nd Pancakes with the President.

Next meeting date: May 4, 9am-12:00pm, CSS 301C

Meeting adjourned 11:45 a.m.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner