

President's Council
Meeting Summary
June 16, 2010
8:30 a.m., CSS 301C

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

Action Item: The summary from the May 5th PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- Lansing Update, Budget and Retirement Issues
 - VP Scoby reported that there were 71 applications for the Early Retirement Incentive; 56 of the 59 University offers have been returned and processed – 2 declined, 1 not yet returned. These will be included in the personnel report to the Board of Trustees for the July 14th meeting.
 - There may be additional retirements through the State of Michigan MPSERS offer.
 - The sub-group recommended that the Emeriti policy be maintained without modification, and that courtesies be expanded to non-faculty retirees as a statement of support and appreciation for their service to the University; i.e. Ferris retiree ID card, parking permit, discount to din in campus dining units, discount at the campus bookstore, use of the Ferris library. VP Willey will communicate with the Emeriti Association and the sub-group will continue discussion with VP Postema added to the group.
 - President Eisler shared updates from Lansing regarding state budget forecasts and his current lobbying efforts regarding community colleges and four-year degrees.

- Position Definition Review
Guest: Beth Logan
Ms. Logan shared the state reporting definitions for “Executive/Administrative” and “Other Professional” positions. President Eisler asked vice presidents to review the definitions, examine the list, and report the appropriate category for employees to Beth.

- Planning / SPARC
Guest: Leonard Johnson
SPARC Chair Johnson distributed the compiled feedback report from the April 23rd SPARC meeting. Council members discussed different ways to approach the strategic plan reporting and how the planning group can best serve the University. Vice presidents will provide a summary of each initiative, based on designated responsibility. Content is due to Mrs. Kamptner by June 25th, who will compile the information; VP Burcham and Scoby will perform a final edit before the report is sent to SPARC.

At the July 12th SPARC retreat, the committee will review the Strategic Plan, discuss what SPARC will do/which topics to consider during the academic year regular sessions, receive a report from the HLC committee, and revise/determine next steps for the strategic plan. Materials will be emailed to the members prior to the retreat. The specific agenda will be set by Chair Johnson.

President Eisler thanked Chair Johnson for his efforts.

- BOT Working Session
Guest: Karen Obermier
President Eisler confirmed the discussion topics for the June 25th Board of Trustee working session. Council members discussed agenda items for the July 14th Board Committee meetings and full Board meeting.
- 2010 University Rate Schedule
VP Scoby distributed the 2010 University Rate Schedule. Council members requested minor changes; VP Scoby has approval to move forward with amendments to the schedule.
- University Housing Plans
VP Scoby provided a summary and recommendations for housing; these plans will be shared with the Board of Trustees at their June 25th working session for information.
- Diversity and Inclusion Office
VP Pilgrim reported that he is training groups across the University on “OUCH – that stereotype hurts” – a DVD and discussion opportunity. A similar training will be provided for faculty; he is looking for additional faculty trainers. He is also working on efforts to diversify the workforce by finding databases of race, ethnicity and women ready to graduate with terminal degrees to provide to search committees. The Foster/Orphan initiative is moving forward; VP Pilgrim and Willey will prepare an announcement within the next two weeks. This will be a pilot program on the Big Rapids campus for this year. VP Pilgrim is pleased to have been invited on the board for the National Organization of Race and Ethnicity; this group would be helpful in diversifying our workforce.
- Enrollment
VP Burcham distributed data on the Fall 2010 enrollment, head count and credit hour numbers. He will provide predictive data at the next meeting.
- Updates / Other
 - Council members were reminded that FY '11 blanket in-state travel forms are due.
 - VP Postema shared an update on the discussions with the MFT and the mediated sessions with the Ferris Faculty Association.
 - VP Green is working on travel insurance and loss prevention issues for international travel.
 - AVP Flickinger told of working on compliance issues with HLC and the federal education requirements to develop consistency within our colleges regarding policies; ie transfer, counting online class time, etc.
 - VP Willey shared the positive work in fundraising and securing commitments by the Advancement Officers. He is pleased to report that Ferris won the Silver Telly Award for the “string” ad!
 - President Eisler has been going through recommendations from the Appraisal/Appraisal process.

Next meeting dates: May 20, 2010, 8:30am-5:00pm in CSS 301C.
May 25, 2010, 8:30am-5:00pm in CSS 301C.

Meeting adjourned 1:00 pm

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner