

**President's Council**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**August 8, 2012**  
**9:00 a.m., CSS 301C**

**Attendance:**

Armstrong, Burcham, Davison-Wilson, Eisler, Erickson, Green, Kamptner, Pilgrim, Postema, Rosen, Scoby

**Action Item:**

- The summary from the July 10, 2012 PC meeting was revised and approved for posting.

**Topic/Discussion Items:**

- Board of Trustees  
Council members reviewed the itinerary and agenda for the August 9-11 Board Retreat, the September 21 Committee meetings and working session, and the November 2 meetings.
- KFA Negotiation - update  
Vice President Davison-Wilson shared that the Kendall Faculty Association Tentative Agreement was ratified by the faculty and provided an update on the contract changes. VP Davison was thanked for her efforts in negotiating the terms of the contract in a timely manner. She and President Rosen will present this to the Board of Trustees for approval.
- Student Debt  
President Eisler will initiate discussion at the Board of Trustees Retreat on the student debt topic and share the identified four major concepts; vice presidents will provide background information. There was also discussion of the planned Student Debt Task Force and their charge.
- Health Insurance Plan Design  
Vice President Scoby distributed a draft of potential health plans, reminding council members of the upward trending costs to contributions of employees and Ferris. There will be continued discussion as data and plans are reviewed.
- Marketing Campaign Materials  
Vice President Armstrong shared the potential billboard 2012-2013 marketing campaign; the purpose is to change the perception about Ferris, share the value of a Ferris degree and elevate the opinions of Ferris State University. Council members provided feedback.
- Rankin / University Center  
Vice President Scoby presented the University Center Renovation Master Project Schedule for review and discussion. The building committee will decide what offices/areas will be placed in the facility. Some Council members would like time with the committee; others expressed a concern regarding a space "domino" effect.
- Space Issues  
Vice President Scoby distributed a recommendation for a Space Issues Task Force; providing a membership, charge and timeline. Council approved the cross-divisional group with a timeline of August 2012 thru August 2014 to review space allocation and reallocation issues and evaluate alternate meeting space locations.

- Student Debt Task Force / SPARC Meeting Topics

Guest: Leonard Johnson, SPARC Chair

President Eisler shared the purpose of a Student Debt Task Force, that Leonard Johnson has agreed to chair the task force, and initiated discussion regarding a charge for the group. Members suggested that the group sift through all the recommendations for those that are the most actionable, and then provide a chart of strategy and implementation. This would not be an implementation group, but will be asked to provide approaches for specific actions. Provost Erickson encouraged that the group consider how to engage individual faculty in this effort. Chair Johnson was empowered to select task force members, and the task force will report to SPARC in November. A charge will be formulated and shared with the task force members.

Topics for the fall SPARC meetings:

September - Vice Presidents will provide major initiatives for the year, based on the Strategic Plan

October - Mentoring / Retention: Associate Provost Bill Potter will be asked to provide information

November - Student Debt Task Force will offer recommendations; the President will discuss the next iteration of the Strategic Plan

December - Enrollment patterns: long-term enrollment and how academic programs link to enrollment, etc.

- Distinguished Staff/Team Committee

President Eisler requested nominations to replace three members of the Distinguished Staff/Team Committee. Names should be provided to Elaine by September.

- Start of School/Founders Day Events

August 13-17 - New Faculty Orientation

August 20 - New Faculty Reception (for full-time faculty)

August 21 - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Faculty Celebration Event

August 24 - Student move in; 1<sup>st</sup> Impressions begins

August 25 - Meijer Madness

August 30 - Founders' Day with Presidential speech, employee picnic, student activities and ice cream social

Provost Erickson requested a list of events during the year that should be attended by vice presidents/deans and if there is a charge, is that to be paid personally or by the University. VP Scoby will draft a list.

- Enrollment

VP Burcham distributed Fall 2012 key enrollment elements for review and discussion.

- Other

- VP Pilgrim has many upcoming presentations scheduled and also announced the good visit on July 27<sup>th</sup> and plans for future collaboration with Malaak Shabazz, daughter of Malcolm X, after her tour of the Jim Crow Museum.
- Provost Erickson announced the launch of the Latino Center in IRC 131. The initial Summer Bridge program was successful; this will be extended to math and reading for ISD students.
- VP Burcham reported a strong Student Government for the coming year. He also announced that Mike Cairns will be retiring January 2013.
- VP Green told that CARE 102 is being taken across the state as a career prep course to schools who are losing counselors. International Center will have over 400 students this year.

- VP Scoby was pleased to announce that new Associate Vice President Tamie Grunow has arrived and is setting introduction meetings. He also mentioned that the class drop process is being reviewed.
- VP Davison-Wilson reported that the furniture is arriving in the Federal Building, the housing at 5 Lyon is full, and Kendall is busy preparing to be an Exhibition Center for ArtPrize (volunteers are still needed for Sept. 18-Oct. 7).
- VP Postema shared that a positive opinion has returned for an ongoing case, producing a monetary settlement for Ferris. He also reported on a Chinese industrialist who is working to bring high school students to the Grand Rapids area and will pay tuition to school districts. He will try to arrange a visit to Ferris.
- VP Armstrong requested information on the next computer replacement program.
- President Rosen is meeting lots of people and working on partnerships. He announced an entrepreneur conference being created by Ferris and Kendall faculty for Nov. 8.
- Mrs. Kamptner reported on efforts to replace the mix of tables for a more usable conference table for the Council.
- President Eisler shared upcoming events, reported on another gift to the Federal Building, announced the expected funding based on our second to lowest tuition increase of the state universities, and reminded Council members to get out to visit with and be helpful to students and faculty for the first days of classes.

**Next meeting date:**

Wednesday, August 29, 9:00-Noon in CSS 301C

Meeting adjourned 12:20 p.m.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner