

**President's Council  
Meeting Summary  
August 19, 2009  
8:30 a.m., PRK 104**

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

**Action Item:** Summary from the August 5<sup>th</sup> PC meeting was approved for posting.

**Discussion Items:**

- **Nepotism and Favoritism Policy**  
VP Postema provided background and draft changes to the Nepotism and Favoritism Policy. Council members discussed options and potential language. VP Postema will revise and return the draft policy for approval.
- **Enrollment**  
VP Burcham shared Fall 2009 registration data. VP Scoby reported that their division continues to watch the housing and parking permit count as indicators.
- **Michigan Promise**  
VP Burcham presented data on the number of Ferris students and the scholarship awards affected if the State of Michigan does not support the Michigan Promise/Michigan Competitive Awards. Ferris will communicate to students that the legislature will most likely not approve the state budget with this funding before fall classes begin. We will not expect them to pay this additional amount and will work with them to find alternative sources of funding should these scholarships not be funded. VP Burcham, Scoby, and Willey will prepare the communication to students. VP Scoby will check on a possible cash flow issue and a Business Office policy.
- **Diversity and Inclusion Office**  
CDO Pilgrim distributed several pages from the August 2009 *African American Family* special report on Education. He will prepare for public relations purposes a bulleted list of several positive items that are not mentioned in this report. He also provided a list of several diversity events that Council members could attend over the next several months, and shared the many diversity training opportunities that he has and will present.
- **Opening of School**  
President Eisler shared with new vice presidents some of the events scheduled at Ferris for the opening of the school year, including the day of college meetings, New Faculty Reception, 1<sup>st</sup> Impressions, faculty training, and Welcome Back Picnic on the Quad.
- **Founders' Day**  
VP Postema spoke of the events on Founders' Day to kick off the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and distributed a draft calendar that will be part of a packet to be sent to each employee. He thanked the Historical Task Force for the many hours spent on preparing for the 125<sup>th</sup>.
- **SPARC meeting**  
President Eisler led a discussion of a recommended structure/membership, the charge for the Strategic Planning and Resource Committee, and future approaches to annualized planning. These topics will be discussed more thoroughly at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting; VPs Scoby, Burcham and Erickson will bring a draft document for annualized planning.

- **Football President's Box**  
President Eisler shared the cost of food in the football President's box and requested recommendations for reducing expenses during this tighter budget year.
- **Budget/Budget Reductions - update**  
VP Scoby presented information regarding benefit rates for FY '10. He also recommended that the general fund operating budget reduction plans, as shared with the Board of Trustees on August 10<sup>th</sup>, be communicated with University employees; he will draft an opening statement for the document.
- **Other**  
VP Willey mentioned plans for the use of the President's Box at the Battle of the Ballpark. VP Scoby provided tickets for the soft opening of The Rock. VC Green was pleased to announce that five general education courses were added online last week. CDO Pilgrim is pleased at the amount of diversity training happening. Provost Erickson expressed pleasure at the 21 new tenure track faculty this year and the new faculty orientation through the Faculty Center. VP Burcham shared that the United Way campaign will be starting soon. VP Postema shared items that his office is working on with labor unions. VC Davison congratulated VP Scoby on the completion of The Rock and told of a successful meeting with Grand Rapids city officials regarding the Federal Building. Mrs. Kamptner thanked Council members for allowing their assistants to attend a networking and training day.

**Next meeting date:** September 2, 8:30-noon in PRK 155

Meeting adjourned 12:10pm

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner