

President's Council
Meeting Summary
October 22, 2008
8:30 a.m., CSS 302

Attendance: Armstrong, Burcham, Christner, Eisler, Kamptner, Pilgrim, Postema; Davison by phone

Action Item: Summary from the September 24, 2008 meeting was approved for posting.

Good News: Council members announced good news items from their division/area.

Discussion Items:

- Scholarship Awarding Policy
Guests: Kristen Salomonson and Rob Wirt
Financial Aid Director Wirt distributed and explained a proposed Scholarship Awarding Policy, including the reason for the policy, definitions, timing and awards/non-award scholarship procedures. The Financial Aid office wants to have a policy in place for the 2009-2010 academic year. Mr. Wirt was encouraged to share the proposal with the Department Head/Chair group and with the athletic coaches. This will be returned to Council at the November 19th meeting for a final decision.
- Data Collection Categories
Guest: Kristen Salomonson
Dean of Enrollment Services Salomonson communicated a federal government change in data collection categories. These expanded categories will be used for the IPEDS report as well as other University-related reports. With this new approach, students and employees may identify with more than one race/ethnic category. This is more clearly defined and provides multi-racial data which is potentially more beneficial in conveying the diversity of our population. A University-wide committee has been working to modify the Banner software and tie it to the People Admin software. Separate surveys will be distributed to employees and students, and an educational campaign will be developed to prepare the University community for this change and to explain the reason for the difference in data category numbers. The Diversity Office will assist with the education approach. To begin the effort, enrollment applications have been updated and are ready for new students, current students and employees may respond online, and hard copy surveys will be available. Surveys will be out to all groups by spring for preparation of the fall report.
- Enrollment
Guest: Kristen Salomonson
VP Burcham distributed information on Michigan's future student recruitment pool. Ferris is poised to deal with the challenges of a shrinking high school graduate population.
- Part-Time Clerical Hour Reports
VP Christner provided the 2nd and 3rd quarter part-Time Clerical Hour Reports.
- Inclement Weather Policy
VP Christner presented the Inclement Weather Policy as a reminder for the upcoming season. VP Armstrong discussed the decision process and information disseminating procedure. Decisions

regarding class cancelations must be made before 6am to adequately inform students and employees.

- **Trademark Licensing Policy**
VP Armstrong informed Council of changes to the Trademark Licensing Program Policy. The policy was approved as proposed.
- **Diversity Office**
CDO Pilgrim informed Council of several diversity issues and upcoming diversity initiatives, including posting videos of diversity events on You Tube. He is considering additional approaches to educating the University community regarding diversity.
- **State Economic Outlook**
President Eisler provided updates on Lansing and concerns about the state economic outlook.
- **Distinguished Staff/Team Awards Committee**
The 2008 Distinguished Staff/Team Awards Committee has requested selection of a new chair and two new committee members. Council members will recommend employees to President Eisler.
- **People Admin – HAF Requests**
The new People Admin software provides an opportunity to change the approval levels for hiring requests. President Eisler will approve position vacancies for salaries \$40,000 and above and for all new full-time positions. Approvals for under \$40K, hourly, part-time and temporary will be approved at the vice president level. A system flag will be sent to the vice president for renewal of continuing temporary to provide time for consideration of request to become a full-time position. A report will be run every six months on all approvals.
- **Honorary Doctorates for 2009**
President Eisler reminded Council members that Honorary Doctorate candidate nominations are due at the November 19th meeting.
- **Board of Trustees Committee Meetings Follow-up**
Guest: Karen Obermier
President Eisler thanked Council members for their preparation of materials for the committee meetings and discussed items that will be forwarded to the full Board meeting. The next meeting will be November 7th at the Amway in Grand Rapids prior to the Ferris Foundation Benefit.
- **Capital Campaign**
VP Armstrong supplied an update on the Comprehensive Capital Campaign feasibility study. A final report is due from CCS on November 19th. She anticipates holding University-wide forums in January or February to describe the intent of the campaign and encourage input. Data on economic impact, targeting companies with Ferris graduates, increasing awareness of Ferris will be gathered over the next several weeks.
- **Search Updates**
VP UA&M search: Four candidates have been on campus for interviews. President Eisler will gather insights from search committee members, deans, Council members, and will study comments from the university community evaluations.
VP A&F search: Candidates will be on campus for interviews the first two weeks of December.

Provost search: Initial search committee interviews are scheduled for December 5-6 with on campus visits in February.

- **Planning/SPARC**

The President has not received feedback from the deans on the best approach for annual planning. That information is needed before the materials can be finalized and distributed to the University community. For the Nov. 5th SPARC meeting, time can be devoted to annual planning and the master plan session. The assessment and marketing presentations will be deferred to the December meeting.

- **Other**

The college meetings regarding the Faculty-Administration Improved Relationship Guidelines have been set and information distributed through the college deans offices. Dale Feinauer will facilitate the meetings. "Year of the Dawg" brochures were distributed by President Eisler.

Meeting adjourned 12:00pm

Next meeting date: President's Council will next meet November 19.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner