

**President's Council
Meeting Summary
November 3, 2010
9:00 a.m., CSS 301C**

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

Action Item: The summary from the October 20th PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- Budget/Planning
 - Open Budget Forums are scheduled for Tuesday, November 9, 1:00 p.m. in the Rankin Centennial Room and Wednesday, November 10, Noon in the West Campus Community Center Multi-purpose Room.
 - Information for these sessions is based on the Citizens Research Council's predictions for the future of Michigan. Additional content will be changes in the University's unrestricted net assets, the number of positions cut and the total budget reductions to date. President Eisler will send a follow-up message with the major points to the University community and will post a video clip online.
 - The state deficit will take several years to get through. We will not know specifics until the new Governor releases his budget in February. Ferris will continue to show restraint to help our students.

- Board of Trustees – November 5th Meetings
Council members reviewed the itinerary for November 5th, discussed the agenda items for the Regular Board meeting, and discussed the working session topics. VP Willey shared that there are 550 attendees expected at the Ferris Foundation Benefit, with a 5:30 p.m. informational reception and 7:00 p.m. unique dining experience.

- Academic Reorganization
Provost Erickson stated that the individual college meetings have been well attended and have been very instructive. He plans to develop a process for academic reorganization by the end of this semester; implement next semester, and complete by the end of the academic year. There are many opportunities. Faculty and staff in the division have been receptive; the conversation has been open and transparent; and all ideas are on the table.

- Administrative Employees
 - VP Scoby provided a summary of conversations regarding proactive things that can be done for the administrative group of employees. Next Monday, November 8th, there will be an announcement and individual letters mailed to this employee group regarding an increase in Ferris' contribution to their health care, which will be retroactive to July 1, 2010. This communication will also mention that Ferris is working on an increase to tuition waivers and developing an approach to address equity and market adjustments.
 - President Eisler and Associate Vice President Warren Hills will begin small group meetings with administrative employees next week to hear thoughts, successes, challenges and frustrations in their positions. Verbal content of the sessions will be captured as well as written comments from a list of three questions, which will be provided for additional feedback. All administrative employees will be invited.

- VP Scoby will convene a group consisting of Provost Erickson, VP Burcham, VP Pilgrim and others to talk about administrative issues, build better relations with the administrative employee group, and determine a process for equity and market adjustment allocations. This group will be organized by the week of November 15; they will listen to concerns and determine a systematic look at market/allocation. Kendall will have a separate process and group, but will also communicate to President's Council.
- Vice Presidents are encouraged to talk with administrative employees within their divisions by the end of January to further ongoing discussions.

- Wellness Program
VP Scoby requested thoughts on the scope of the Ferris Wellness Program. Members suggested that the process should contain medical and body mass testing; exercise program and machine training resources; and a reporting piece (i.e. exercise log). AVP Hills will chair the Wellness Committee. VP Scoby will accept additional ideas for a Comprehensive Plan to be completed by April 2011; the Plan will be reviewed before the end of the academic year; and taken to the July Board of Trustee meeting for review/approval.

- Mobile Device Policy
VP Scoby distributed a federal tax update involving the Mobile Device Policy for information and discussion.

- Enrollment
VP Burcham shared good news regarding the current data on Fall 2011 applications.

- Diversity and Inclusion Office
VP Pilgrim informed Council that the OMSS is involved in very diverse programming and has created a good, collaborative work environment in FLITE. Marc Charbonnet, who has donated his private collection of rare dolls to the Jim Crow Museum, will be visiting Ferris along with other donors to participate in a video regarding the Museum. VP Pilgrim reminded Council of the Diversity Plan and shared that the College of Arts & Sciences Diversity Committee has prepared an employee survey, that he is assisting in editing the survey. Student Sylvia Moore continues to work on bringing Mrs. Michelle Obama to Ferris and is coordinating a video invitation. Take Back the Night was a wonderful success with good support throughout the University and community.

- Other Issues
 - VP Willey will email several informational items to members in the interest of time.
 - VP Green shared that "Ferris First" (i.e. Blue Sky Committee) had their first meeting, which went very well.
 - VP Postema reminded Council of the February 25, 2011 Friends of Ferris event and stated that Tom Weaver is hosting Dave Rosema at The Rock today at 11:30 a.m.
 - Provost Erickson announced that the Interim Dean for the College of Allied Health Sciences will be named tomorrow.
 - President Eisler reported that he and Patsy will host a Holiday Reception for the Executive Division, Vice Presidents and their direct reports on December 10th; invitations will be mailed. He reminded members of the Nov. 11th Veterans Breakfast and the Nov. 9th SPARC meeting.

Next meeting date: December 1, 9am-12pm, CSS 301C (Good News due Nov. 23)
FYI: Elaine will be on vacation Nov. 29-Dec. 3

Meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m.
Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner