

**President's Council
Meeting Summary
December 15, 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 December 1st PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- State Budget/Gubernatorial Transition
 - The state legislature will come go back to meet one day prior to the holidays.
 - There was discussion of the report "Business Leaders from Michigan."
 - President Eisler has had opportunity to talk with members of the Gubernatorial Transition Team regarding several issues.
- Board of Trustees - December 17th Meeting and Working Session
Council members reviewed the agenda items for the Special Board meeting and the topics for the working session scheduled for December 17.
- Pharmacy in GR
Provost Erickson stated that College of Pharmacy faculty and staff members are delighted that the Michigan legislature recently passed a Capital Outlay bill including \$6.6 million for the pharmacy building project in Grand Rapids. The issue will be timing. An announcement will be made in Grand Rapids regarding the relationship with the Van Andel Institute, breadth of the medical program at Ferris, faculty engagement in research and student engagement at the Institute. A target date will be February 2011.
- Honorary Doctorate Nominations
Council members discussed several individuals who had been nominated for the 2011 Honorary Doctorate. One person for each the Kendall and Ferris Commencements was recommended. President Eisler will forward the names to the Board of Trustees for approval, and then contact the individuals prior to releasing the names.
- Summer University 2011 and beyond
VP Scoby distributed a document regarding future program development of Summer University. It provides guidelines to a cross-functional team concerning planning, schedule, content (theme) and post event feedback. It was suggested to link with Ferris First and the strategic plan regarding themes. Associate Vice President for Human Resources will chair the group; he will contact VPs for committee members recommendations, and VPs Pilgrim and Green will be members of the team to represent Council.
- Emeriti Association Request
VP Willey shared a request from the Ferris Emeriti Association to extend the tuition waiver named in the "BOT Adopted Procedures/Descriptions/Definitions", section II Courtesies and Privileges,

to spouses of Association members. Council members sited class size issues and tuition costs as reasons they were not supportive. Council discussed a former senior learning program, in which persons 55 years and older could take free non-credit classes.

- Enrollment
VP Burcham provided Spring 2011 registration data and Fall 2011 application information for review and discussion.
- Diversity and Inclusion Office
VP Pilgrim shared that diversity reports are coming into his office. The Taskforce on the Recruitment and Retention of a Diverse Faculty and Staff has met and are making progress. One suggestion is that each search committee will explain what they will do to assure a diverse pool of applicants at the front end of the search. There is also a recommendation to market the University to diverse populations. The Jim Crow Museum project, funding, location, and other issues were discussed. VP Pilgrim will provide an update and information to the Board of Trustees at the Dec. 17th working session.
- Administrative Employees
President Eisler and AVP Hills recently held 14 sessions with administrative employees to hear their thoughts about Ferris. VP Scooby provided a set of recommendations from the Council sub-group based on those conversations, which will be forwarded to a 13-person ad hoc administrative group. This group will work on a high priority list of recommendations to be returned to Council. President Eisler will post online the categorization of notes taken in the meetings so that employees will know that they were heard.
- Other
 - Provost Erickson updated Council members on his meeting with the Academic Senate regarding the process to review the academic organization. There was good discussion and recommendations for the process, core review team and timeline.
 - VP Burcham was pleased to report that there is a good return on the Tuition Incentive Program / Foster Youth Initiative letters.
 - VP Scooby stated that the IRS is increasing the mileage rate from \$.50 to \$.51 per mile. Council members approved to adopt that rate for Ferris.
 - VP Davison-Wilson shared that construction is underway at the Federal Building; the construction fence is up, the trees are down, the windows are out, the abatement has begun, and the bid package is out. They are on target for and March 2012 completion.
 - Before the break, President Eisler will provide a sheet of expectations to Council regarding the January 5th meeting for the mid-year review of divisional planning documents.

Next meeting date: January 5, 1pm-5pm, CSS 301C on planning

Meeting adjourned 12:00 p.m.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner