President’s Council (PC) Meeting Summary
January 30, 2008
9:45 a.m., CSS 301C

Attendance: Burcham, Christner for Duffett, Eisler, Kamptner, Oldfield, Pilgrim, Postema; Davison and Evans by phone

Action Item: Summary from the January 9, 2008 meeting was approved for posting.

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

Discussions Items:
- FERPA
  Guest: Kristen Salomonson
  Dean of Enrollment Services Kristen Salomonson provided information for discussion on FERPA issues and the general importance of data security regarding student records. Suggestions were made regarding privacy training, compliance and reminders at Novell password sign-on. As there is an increasing number of requests for student employee access, the Council members discussed options for required training and accountability. Dean Salomonson will provide recommendations for action at a future meeting.

- Board of Trustees Feb. 15 Committees
  Guests: Kristen Salomonson and Karen Obermier
  Council members reviewed and discussed agenda items for the February 15th Finance Committee and Student Affairs/Academic Affairs Committee meetings of the Board of Trustees.

- Grand Action Committee
  VC Evans reported on the Grand Action Committee meeting in Grand Rapids. The Committee is very supportive of Ferris and Kendall, encouraging us to move forward with the Federal Building.

- UAP Presentation Schedule
  A draft schedule for Unit Action Plan presentations for February 5th and 6th was reviewed; it will be forwarded University wide. The UAP documents are due today and should be shared with Council members.

- Business Policy – Transport of Sick and Injured Policy
  AVP Christner provided an updated policy on the Transport of Sick and Injured to reflect change in state law and includes what is expected of Public Safety and our employees. Council members will take the draft to their divisions for comment and review. The policy will be returned to Council in one month.
• HRPP Policy – Immigration / Visa Employment Policy
GC Postema distributed a draft HRPP Policy on Immigration / Visa Employment. He suggested that Director Beth Krueger speak with the Dean’s Council regarding the cost issue for recruitment, and then the policy will be returned to Council at the February 13th meeting.

• Diversity Plan / Diversity Office
CDO Pilgrim mentioned that there has been University-wide distribution and discussion of the diversity plan; it has solid support across campus. The Plan will be presented for endorsement to the divisional councils over the next few weeks, to the President’s Council on February 13th, and to the Board of Trustees on February 15th. Dr. Pilgrim then provided an update on the work of the Governing Ideas Task Force and SPARC regarding the mission statement, vision statement, and initial set of goals.

• Enrollment
VP Burcham distributed data on Fall 2008 enrollment numbers and was delighted to report a record enrollment for Spring 2008.

• Retiree Reception
President Eisler initiated discussion on hosting an April Retiree Reception. The purpose would be to honor the current fiscal year retirees and would be held in the Rankin Center Dome Room. All retirees and spouses as well as the university community will be invited to the reception with a minimal program to introduce the retirees. Council members approved the idea and potential date of April 29 or 30.

• Compact for the President’s Council
Council members reviewed, approved and signed the Compact for the President’s Council. The document will be laminated and placed in each PC member’s notebook.

• Dates for “Big Discussion Items”
Council members considered potential dates for extensive discussions on substantive topics. Possible dates will be provided at the next PC meeting.

• Other
  • GC Postema reminded Council members of the Feb. 29 Friends of Ferris dinner/auction.
  • VP Burcham told Council members of the surprise of students and employees when President Eisler was “unveiled” as the bulldog at last weekend’s Dawg Days.
  • President Eisler reminded Council members to attend the full Town/Gown meeting and mentioned that he will send a university-wide notice regarding the late notification of closure on Wednesday.

• Agenda Items for Next Meeting
Council members provided items to be discussed at the February 13th meeting.

Next meeting date: The next PC meetings are scheduled for February 13 and 27.

Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner