President’s Council
Meeting Summary
February 16, 2011
8:30 a.m., CSS 301C

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

Action Item: The summary from the January 19, 2011 PC meeting was approved for posting.

Discussion Items:

- Board of Trustees – Feb. 25 Committee Meetings
  Council members reviewed agenda items for the upcoming February 25th Finance Committee and Academic/Student Affairs Committee meetings scheduled to be held at the Holiday Inn.

- University Planning Cycle
  President Eisler distributed the “Planning Overview” summary approved by PC on March 2010 and the visual planning chart prepared October 2010. Council members shared concerns regarding the current planning cycle timing. It is important to balance the bottom-up value with the top-down strategic initiatives so that all are engaged in the planning process. Council will have discussions in May and June on strategic initiatives; annual planning by divisions will begin in summer. The vice presidents are responsible to have conversations in their divisions regarding the cycle change and making the annual planning process into a bi-annual event (every two years, not this year and not a rolling two years); annual plans will continue to be at the VP level.

- PC Replacement
  VP Scoby requested that Council approve the next phase of personal computer replacements for summer 2011. The program was set aside in 2009; returned but scaled down for 2010. The list for 2011 is approximately 350 units. VP Scoby will return to PC with a list developed by division so that VPs will understand their divisional impact. The project will be funded half by central funds and half by division.

- Summer University 2011
  VP Scoby presented a draft program overview for the June 6, 7 and 8 Ferris Summer University. VP Green, a member of the committee, shared that the proposal includes a daily theme, speaker and interactive workshops. Council members suggested options for topics and lunch, and then requested that materials to employees are distributed prior to the end of the semester.

- Cleary Act Compliance Policy
  VP Postema provided a draft business policy letter for the Clery Act Compliance Policy. This document complies with the law and will be an iterative process. Council members will provide reactions and comments for revisions to VP Postema by March 2.

- Student Wage Funds
  VP Burcham provided an update on the additional student wage funding distribution. Based on an email from the Student Employment office that there are no student work study funds for summer, Vice Presidents will recheck with their divisions to see if and how much more funds are needed.
SPARC – follow-up
President Eisler initiated discussion of the February 15th Strategic Planning and Resources Council meeting. Members shared challenges of online delivery, course enrollment numbers and management policies. This topic will continue into the March 15th SPARC meeting.

Administrative Employees Task Force
VP Scoby distributed a list of recommendations from the Administrative Employees Task Force for review. A sub-committee will meet to work on an approach and implementation plan.

Enrollment
VP Burcham provided Fall 2011 applications and admits by campus, college, and student type. He is encouraged that Ferris and FAFSA application numbers are increased from last year.

Dashboard
President Eisler asked the Council to again review the Dashboard tool and share with him in one-on-one sessions the data that would have the most value. It was mentioned that consistency of data is the most important aspect.

Other
• President Eisler confirmed that the Wellness Task Force and University Center group will be convening soon. Some employees have offered assistance to the Bus Service Task Force. He shared updates on the supplemental budget, the expectation of the impact in the Governor’s budget, legislator visits, and the University-wide message for next Monday. He also stated that a letter has been sent to the Michigan republican congresspersons regarding the Pell grant bill. The Diverse Workforce Task Force report will be discussed at the March 4th Council meeting, prior to the presentation to the Board of Trustees.
• VP Postema gave a report on the Grand Rapids Pharmacy project and reminded Council of the Friends of Ferris event on February 25, 6pm, Holiday Inn.
• Provost Erickson shared that a grants office review has been done; a draft report is being developed.
• VP Burcham thanked Council members for the assistance of all divisions to make Dawg Days successful.
• VP Scoby reported that a Grand Rapids presence is requested by the Festival of the Arts committee at their Closing Ceremony, which includes an award presentation to a Kendall student. Dr. Evans will be in attendance.

Guest: New Trustee Paul Boyer stopped in to meet the Council members.

Next meeting date: March 4, 2-4pm, CSS 301C

Meeting adjourned 12:15 p.m.
Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner