President's Council
Meeting Summary
April 7, 2010
8:30 a.m., CSS 301C

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

Action Item: The summary from the March 17th PC meeting was approved with changes for posting.

Discussion Items:
- Lansing Update and Budget Issues
  Guest: Sally DePew
  - President Eisler shared updates from Lansing regarding state budget discussions. Council members continued strategic discussions of budget reduction planning for the University.
  - Vice presidents reported on the number of applications for the Early Retirement Incentive, application decisions, the impact to divisional budgets and potential implications to service levels across the Ferris community. There will be a larger discussion of this in mid-May.
  - Vacation payout funding for the ERI program will come from the accrual built into the annual budget; the balance and liability will reduce simultaneously.
  - The ending date for the ERI program will remain as June 30, 2010.
  - Vice presidents will share approval/non-approval decisions in the next two days with the individuals; they can announce personally now; there will be a public announcement later in May following Board of Trustee approval.

- BOT April 9th Meeting
  Guests: Sally DePew and Karen Obermier
  President Eisler reported on the items to be discussed at the Board of Trustees working session on April 9th and then Council members reviewed the April 9th meeting agenda.

- Administrative Evaluations
  President Eisler recommended that the first vice presidential performance evaluation will be scheduled for April 28-30.

- Distinguished Staff and Team Recommendations
  The Distinguished Staff and Team Committee recommended five individuals and one team for the 2010 awards. Council members approved the list; President Eisler will call the awardees.

- Hiring Process Exceptions – review data
  VP Postema distributed data on the number of hiring process exceptions over the last five years for Council review and discussion.

- Reactions to Pedestrian Safety Task Force Report
  VP Scoby requested comments on the Pedestrian Safety Task Force report before it is finalized, and then commented that the engineer’s report will arrive soon. It will add content and clarity to the report. The final report is expected to be done in two weeks.
• PC’s Participation in Phase 2 Full-disc Encryption
  VP Scoby mentioned that Phase 1 of the encryption project is complete; Phase 2 includes the President’s Council. Council members would appreciate being included in encryption for office and laptop computers.

• Diversity and Inclusion Office
  • CDO Pilgrim distributed information on the Ferris Orphan and Foster Youth Initiative. This is a collaborative effort and questions remain, including 1) how much funding is available, 2) how to handle mentoring and housing and 3) in what division or office will the program be located? The project received provisional support from Council.
  • He then provided a general charge and potential membership under consideration for the Task Force on the Recruitment and Retention of a Diverse Faculty and Staff. Members will give CDO Pilgrim advice on the list.

• Enrollment
  VP Burcham distributed data on the Fall 2010 enrollment applications.

• Other
  Mrs. Kamptner shared the list of service awardees to be honored on April 28th. VP Willey reported that the 125th Annual Report will be available later this week and uses photos of commissioned paintings which capture our values; Foundation funds were used for the publication of this report. AP Flickinger shared the excellent, interdisciplinary work of the faculty on the University Curriculum Committee. VP Burcham is pleased with the planning of the April 17th Big Event, which is also the Jr. Day for Dawg Days. VP Scoby mentioned that the three sculpture pieces will be ready for installation at Perry and 215th Avenue. He also shared about the IT security breech; a subgroup of Scoby, Postema, Willey and Flickinger will meet to review related concerns. VP Postema reminded members of upcoming events: April 21st Concert, April 22nd 125th Symposium and Community Dinner, and April 27th Lansing Legislative Luncheon. CDO Pilgrim was pleased at the Ferris representation at the Chavez march and dinner in Grand Rapids. President Eisler will hold a Community Briefing in Big Rapids on April 19th.

HLC Report Presentation:
  Robbie Teahen, Mike Cairns, Chris Vonderhaar and Mo Milzarski provided an update on the HLC accreditation report and committee work, including an overview of the criteria and our process, review of the criterion committees, status of the report writing and invited Council’s thoughts and questions. A copy of the draft report will be prepared for Council by June for initial reading and review. President Eisler thanked the team for their leadership and efforts.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, April 21, 2010, 8:30-Noon in CSS 301C.

Meeting adjourned 12:05pm
Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner