President’s Council
Meeting Summary
August 31, 2011
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 July 17, 2011 PC meeting was amended and approved for posting.

Discussion Items:
• Administrative Equity Sub-group Update
  VP Scoby, VP Burcham and Provost Erickson shared a draft recommendation for the administrative equity process, including parameters and timeline. Council members discussed many points, the need for fairness and a common understanding. Funding will be determined and divided by division before the process begins. President Eisler will discuss the Administrative Task Force results, adding equity as a component, with the Board of Trustees next month. Vice Presidents will meet to discuss consistency and fairness across divisions prior to sharing their individual intent with the President. The VP decision will be final; there will be no equity appeal process to the President.

• Board of Trustees
  Council members suggested topics for the September 23rd Board of Trustees working session in Grand Rapids. There will be a tour of the Federal Building following the meeting.

• Founders’ Day
  President Eisler noted the events on Founders’ Day, September 1, 2012:
  11:00am President’s Remarks / Q&A in Dome Room
  11:30am-1:00pm Employee Picnic on the Quad
  2:00pm Dedication of stained glass in Ferris Mausoleum
  3:7pm Student activities on the Quad
  4:7pm Ice Cream Social on the Quad

• Expectations and Planning 2011
  As part of the Founders’ Day presentation, President Eisler will share information from “Expectations 2011-2012.”

• 2011 Efficiencies and Accomplishments Report
  Guest: Sally DePew
  Budget Director DePew explained the state reporting need (appended as part of our budget request) for the divisional Efficiencies and Accomplishments Report. President Eisler mentioned that the information is also useful for his legislative visits and testimony, as well as many other things. The efficiencies section should include what has been done to make the division more efficient and the actual funds saved as a result. The accomplishments are a way to show the impact
of all that was done even while reducing staff and finding efficiencies. The divisional reports are due to the Budget Office by the end of September.

- Higher Education Trends / Homework
  President Eisler requested that council members write the ten most important higher education trends that will impact on Ferris over the next year. This is due to the President in two weeks. He will compile the information to share, along with his list, at the next meeting.
  At the next one-on-one meetings, vice presidents should be prepared to discuss with the President where their divisions are on planning and send an electronic copy prior to the meeting. These updates will be shared with the PC at the Oct. 5th meeting.

- Leadership Council
  Council members discussed potential revision and reshaping of the Leadership Council. President Eisler will contact current Leadership Council members to solicit suggestions and input on expected outcomes for the group.

- Enrollment
  VP Burcham distributed Fall 2011 enrollment head count and credit hour data.
  President Eisler mentioned the excitement of new students early morning on the first day of classes; he recommended that Council members wander campus next fall on the first day to provide answers and greet students. He also shared that some colleges were particularly helpful to students as they wrote chalk directional messages on the sidewalks around their buildings.

- UA&M - updates
  VP Willey distributed a revised “UA&M Briefing Discussion” and commented that he will provide this report at every upcoming PC. Council will continue discussion at the next meeting.

- Other
  VP Pilgrim is pleased that Ferris has increased diversity in the workplace with four new hires. The Jim Crow Museum plans, including extra displays in the entrance to the Museum, are moving forward; a March 2012 opening is still anticipated. VP Scoby shared positive ridership news and thanks for the amazing teamwork on the GR/BR bus route this week. VP Davison-Wilson reported that 5 Lyon is full (169 beds) and that Kendall is maintaining the bus ridership pilot this year, providing 100% subsidy for students. VP Green stated that the number of international students enrolled is up and that EIO is close to signing a contract with the Wayne County Community College district for Fall 2012 classes at the University Center. Provost Erickson’s office has hired a person to replace a full-time employee. He also commented on the terrific move-in experience related by many parents and students. VP Postema reported on several legal issues.

Next meeting dates:
  Wednesday, September 21, 11am-2pm, CSS 310C (regular meeting)

Meeting adjourned 11:05 a.m.
Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner