President's Council  
Meeting Summary  
December 12, 2012  
9:00 a.m., CSS 301C

Attendance:  
Armstrong, Burcham, Davison-Wilson by phone, Eisler, Erickson, Green, Kamptner, Pilgrim, Postema, Rosen, Scoby

Action Item:  
• The summary from the November 28, 2012 PC meeting was approved for posting.

Topic/Discussion Items:  
• Honorary Doctorate Nominations  
Vice Presidents discussed nominations for May 2013 Honorary Doctorate candidates.

• DCCL Commencement Robes  
Provost Erickson shared a request by the Doctor of Community College Leadership program. The first doctoral graduates from DCCL will be May 2013; the program is requesting crimson gowns rather than black. Council is generally supportive. The Provost will discuss the possibility of changing the color of all doctoral gowns with Optometry and Pharmacy; all baccalaureate and masters gowns will remain black. He will return with a recommendation. When a decision is made, a policy will be drafted.

• IRS Allowable Mileage Rate  
VP Scoby informed Council of the new IRS standard mileage rate for use of personal vehicles. Council approved the increase to 56.5 cents per mile from the current rate of 55.5 cents per mile, effective January 1, 2013.

• Grant Program in A&F  
VP Scoby provided a draft Administration and Finance grant program, funded by divisional carry forward of one-time funds. This project will generate creativity to improve customer service and productivity and is available to full-time employees in this division. There was discussion on process, stipends and communication. Implementation will begin within the next few months.

• Strategic Plan  
Council members were pleased at the good attendance and participation at the Dec. 11th SPARC meeting. Provost Erickson and Dr. Sandy Balkema will co-chair the Strategic Plan project. The timeline is anticipated to be: Spring 2013 - environmental scan and meetings; summer - create draft document; Fall 2013 - discussion of iterations and complete by November 2013.

• Round Robin  
• VP Armstrong updated on the Pharmacy and Hockey mini-campaigns and the Associate Vice President search.  
• President Rosen stated that the LEED Gold event for the Federal Building is this afternoon and shared about the upcoming design conference, new program consideration, and the joint event with GRAM on February 1.
• VP Davison said that the Foundation transfer papers will be signed today.

• Provost Erickson reported that an offer has been made to a candidate for the Dean of Michigan College of Optometry position; it has been tentatively accepted. There are personnel changes coming in the Entrepreneur Institute and he is reviewing plans for Research and Grants.

• VP Pilgrim appreciates the opportunity to talk with divisions about the Diversity Annual Reports and the engagement it has allowed.

• President Eisler reminded Council members of important issues to consider for next semester and sharing of mid-year expectations in early January. He is pleased with the well-attended holiday receptions this year. As he interviews students for commencement stories he is struck by the challenges students overcome to earn their degree. He shared that the evening of May 6 will be the Federal Building Grand Opening with a strolling dinner and student exhibit. He also shared his enthusiasm of and provided background information on the two incoming Board of Trustee members. He then thanked Council for the outstanding work this semester and looks forward to all that will be accomplished next semester.

Next meeting date:
Wednesday, January 9, 2013, 9am-Noon in CSS 301C

Meeting adjourned 10:45 a.m.
Submitted by Elaine R. Kamptner