GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND GENERAL COUNSEL

Share Your Successes – April 28, 2011

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Jody Greco:

- Successful passage of the capital outlay bill that included the College of Pharmacy, Tower 25, Michigan Street location. Significant contributors to this success include Michigan Legislative leaders, President Eisler, Manny Lentine and the College of Pharmacy.
- Hosted a successful Lansing Legislative Luncheon on April 13, 2011, with over 161 people in attendance. Guests included 24 legislators with an additional 85 legislative/committee staff also attending.
- Continue to serve campus community as a resource through the distribution of daily Legislative Links email.
- Community involvement:
  - Town Gown Council
  - Leadership Mecosta
  - Mecosta Chamber of Commerce
  - Mecosta County Economic Development Corporation
- Monitor legislation pertinent to higher education, particularly issues regarding the state budget and capital outlay.

Richelle Boerma:

- Hosted a community wide Founders' Day Ice Cream Social serving over 900 community members, students, faculty, staff and emeriti during Welcome Back Week.
- During the vacancy of the Governmental Relations Assistant, served as primary leader of planning the Friends of Ferris event in 2010 with primary assistance from Sharon Hopper and additional assistance from Deb Yost and Cindy Bauman.
- During the vacancy of the Governmental Relations Assistant, distributed the Legislative Links; continue to serve as back up.
- Miles Postema continues to serve on the Friends of Ferris Political Action Committee Board of Directors. Their 2011 annual fundraising event hosted over 250 guests and netted close to $23,000.

Deb Yost:

- The job responsibilities of the Governmental Relations Assistant were successfully accomplished during a vacancy in the position. This success was the result of excellent team work on the part of support staff. All of the support staff assumed additional responsibilities to plan events and perform day-to-day duties of the position. For example (other than noted above): Cindy Bauman and the summer intern took notes of State Relations Officers meetings, Deb Yost handled day-to-day activities and compiled and prepared the Lobby Report, Vanity Plate and Capital Projects Reports; the whole office assisted with the Ice Cream Social. Team work continued after hire to transition Jody Greco in her new position.
- Coordinated and administered the search for the Governmental Relations Assistant; Jody Greco started employment within six months from the beginning of the vacancy.
GENERAL COUNSEL

Cindy Bauman:

- Training conducted:
  - Copyright training for Arts & Sciences (Ken Plas)
  - FERPA presentation to Pharmacy preceptors (Ken Plas)
  - Academic Misconduct (Ken Plas)
  - Participated in Law 101 for Faculty (Ken Plas)
  - Assisted with Finance Town Hall Purchasing Process/New Vendors/Independent Contractors Session (Cindy Bauman and Ken Plas)
  - Copyright and Fair Use training to College of Pharmacy faculty (Miles Postema)
  - Employment Law for Ferris Employee Leadership Program (Miles Postema)
  - Institutional Apologies (NACUA Workshop) (Miles Postema)
  - Mastering the Sales Process for Lawyers (NACUA) (Miles Postema)

- Assistance with policies and policies website:
  - Smoking
  - Sickle cell policy/waiver
  - Responding to research misconduct
  - Missing resident student
  - Kendall Clery Act Policy
  - Clery Act Policy Business Policy Letter
  - Social media policy
  - Dorm/apartment eviction procedures
  - Sign language interpreter
  - Service animal policy

- Assisted many other areas achieve the successes noted in their Share Your Successes sessions.

Ken Plas

- Conducted lengthy investigations and rendered findings and conclusions for an alleged hostile work environment complaint and an alleged religious discrimination/harassment complaint.
- Served on the Behavior Review Team and Intervention Team regarding student behavior.
- Reviewed and provided advice on 130 contracts.

Deb Yost:

- The division received a “no violations” result from a two-year audit of four Purchasing Cards and one direct pay account.
- The division financially supports a number of activities on campus; for example, hole sponsorship of the Ferris Professional Women Golf Outing, which is their primary fundraiser for student scholarships.
LABOR RELATIONS

Steve Stratton:
- Worked with Human Resources to improve the supervisory training track and provide “advanced level” education. In addition to in-house trainers, outside subject experts were brought in to train dozens of supervisors in areas such as: Speech Issues in Higher Education; ADA/FMLA/Workers’ Compensation; and Harassment in the Workplace.
- Negotiated successor three year collective bargaining agreement with the Ferris Faculty Association/MEA.
- Negotiated successor five year collective bargaining agreement with the Registered Nurses/Teamsters.
- Coordinated Employer response to Ferris Nontenure-Track Faculty Organization/AFT organizing drive. Commenced negotiations for initial collective bargaining agreement.
- Coordinated Employer response to Unit Clarification Petition filed by the Clerical-Technical Association/MEA and negotiated settlement to petition.
- Represented Ferris as member of Board of Directors for Michigan Public Employer Labor Relations Association (MPELRA).

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Sharon Hopper:
- Provided training regarding search committees and the on-line employment process, as well as reviewed the hiring process of 248 positions.
- Contracted with a consultant to complete Ferris State University’s annual Affirmative Action Plan which is required by federal law.
- Funded Inclusion Advocacy Training at Summer University 2010.
- Provided financial support to Disability Awareness Month and Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration events and activities.