The meeting of the College Council was called to order at 11:20 a.m.; Dean Fabritius presided. The minutes of the October 24, 2013, College Council meeting were approved as distributed.

REPORTS
Below are highlights from a series of administrative and committee reports. Brief updates were also given by Megan Noltemeyer for the Convocations Committee, Lee Jefferson for the Honors and Prizes Committee, Sharon Duncan for Staff Congress and Cody Cook for the Student Government Association.

Vice President and Dean of the College
Dean Fabritius referenced the 2015-2016 academic calendar, recently adopted by Senior Staff and distributed with the agenda for this meeting. She also mentioned several important dates related to our SACS reaccreditation process:
1. This fall, the SACS Commission on Colleges Vice President will visit campus.
2. Our compliance report is due March 15, 2015.
3. Our site visit will be November 10-12, 2015, and eight weeks prior we must submit a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP).
She encouraged faculty and staff to complete the survey on possible QEP topics. Topics must focus on something that improves student learning.

Student Life Office
Kendrick Durham reported that Greek recruitment has concluded; currently, just under 54% of the student body is affiliated with a fraternity or sorority. The Beta Theta Pi fraternity has been fully reinstated on campus and will occupy the Breeze House next fall following renovations over the summer. There has been some preliminary discussion of adding another sorority on campus.

Human Resources Committee
Megan Milby announced a change in our Flexible Spending Account policies: up to $500 of unspent funds may now be carried over from one year to the next. The Committee also agreed to update our smoking policy to include electronic cigarettes.

Diversity and Community Committee
J.H. Atkins extended an invitation for suggestions for next year’s Martin Luther King convocation speaker, and he noted recent efforts to organize a Centre black alumni club. He also reported that the Associated Colleges of the South (ACS) adopted a diversity plan which the committee will consider for adoption at Centre.

Instructional and Technology Resources Committee
Forrest Stonedahl reported that the committee has been working in three subcommittees:
1. The committee reviewing Keith Fowlkes’ “State of the IT” report unanimously approved the report and highlighted the following points:
   a. technology issues with the admissions software system,
   b. some continuing confusion among faculty and students regarding roles of the CTL vs. ITS which would be good to further clarify, and
   c. an endorsement of increasing ITS staffing, given that we rank 18 out of 19 in IT staffing among our aspirant schools.
2. The committee reflecting on current technology practices is continuing to work on creating a report summarizing our faculty’s use of technology.
3. The committee discussing emerging technologies has been considering ways to reduce the amount of printing on campus (for both cost and environmental benefits), and reviewed a number of apps for digital annotation and note-taking, for both tablets and computers.

**Planning and Priorities Committee**
Clarence Wyatt said that the committee will conduct more campus-wide conversations this spring to inform the completion of a draft of a refocused strategic plan.

**Student Life Committee**
Laura Pritchard reported that committee discussions have included the following topics: vandalism on campus, trends in student mental health, sacred space on campus, and the growth in our international student population (including how to better meet their needs).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Dean Fabritius announce that renovations are underway on the second floor of the Combs Center to provide meeting space for various student groups, including the Brown, Bonner, John C. Young, and Posse scholars. Next year, the Brown/Bonner House will convert to student residence hall space.

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**
Dan Kirchner asked for an update on the launch of our new website. It was noted that “points of contact” in the Communications Office have been assigned to various offices and pages within the site. WordPress training is ongoing.

Elizabeth Graves asked if the college has considered going completely smoke-free. Dean Fabritius noted that this comes up periodically and, to date, the prevailing sense is that doing so would result in the undesirable consequence of moving smoking to “someone else’s front lawn.” It was agreed that we should compare our current policies with those of our peers.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.
Tim Culhan, Secretary

Present:

J.H. Atkins  Stephanie Fabritius  Megan Noltemeyer
Rebecca Barefield  Lauren Fall  Patrick Noltemeyer
Thomas Becker  Annie Garrison  Marie Nydam
Jay Bloom  Jen Goetz  Kerry Paumi
Kathryn Bowles  Elizabeth Graves  Laura Pritchard
Cody Cook  Rasitha Jayasekare  Jacob Raderer
Sarah Cornett  Lee Jefferson  Jacky Seaver
Willie Costley  Bruce Johnson  Forrest Stonedahl
Lenny Demoranville  Joel Kilty  Ellen Swanson
Kay Drake  Daniel Kirchner  Beau Weston
Sharon Duncan  Ben Knoll  Amy Wise
Kendrick Durham  Megan Milby  Clarence Wyatt
Sarah Egge  Yvonne Morley