The meeting of the College Council was called to order at 11:20 a.m.; President Roush presided. The minutes of the April 23, 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 Randy Hays for the Student Life Office, Megan Noltemeyer for the Convocations Committee, Lee Jefferson for the Honors and Prizes Committee, Megan Milby for the Human Resources Committee, and Sharon Duncan for Staff Congress.

Vice President and Dean of the College

Dean Fabritius described three major gifts/grants recently received by the College:
1. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded Centre College $600,000 to expand undergraduate and student-faculty collaborative research opportunities, particularly in the humanities and social sciences.
2. $500,000 from the James Graham Brown Foundation, to expand and improve Centre’s unique brand of experiential education.
3. An anonymous gift of $1 million to encourage foreign language study and comprehension by Centre students and faculty. The gift will help fund travel to foreign countries.

Dean of Admission and Student Financial Planning

Bob Nesmith reported that campus visits by prospective students are up by 30%. He also welcomed Kevin Lamb, Centre’s new Associate Dean of Admission & Director of Financial Aid.

Diversity and Community Committee

J.H. Atkins described the committee’s efforts to publicize the College’s Statement of Community, and to more intentionally incorporate its principles into daily life at the College.

Enrollment Management Committee

Joel Kilty reported that the committee approved a recommendation that we require either an IELTS or TOEFL score from our international student applicants (whose native language is not English). Previously only a TOEFL score was accepted. He also said the committee is discussing the possibility of making SAT or ACT scores optional for applicants.

Instructional and Technology Resources Committee

Forrest Stonedahl described the committee’s efforts to encourage instructors to submit textbook adoptions in a timely manner (responding to federal mandates requiring textbook information to be available to students at the time they register for classes). In addition, the committee recommends that information about the importance of timely textbook adoptions should be added to the New Faculty Orientation program. He also reported that three subcommittees have been established to address 1) current technology practices in the classroom, including a review of the recent survey of faculty about their practices, 2) Keith Fowlkes’ comprehensive review of technology operations and resources across campus, and 3) emerging technologies.

Planning and Priorities Committee

Clarence Wyatt said that a draft of a “refocused” strategic plan would be available soon. The document addresses changes at the College in the last five years, as well as external realities that impact our future. A guiding principle has been: “What will make us stronger.” The plan outlines four strategic directions, and Clarence emphasized that it is a conceptual document. Once affirmed in its final version (hopefully at the April Board meeting), the work of establishing operational plans will begin.
Sexual Harassment Committee
Gina Nicoletti reported that the committee is reviewing its charge, especially as it relates to the Campus Save Act (new federal legislation requiring colleges and universities to educate students, faculty, and staff on the prevention of rape, acquaintance rape, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking).

Student Government Association Report
Cody Cook reported that the SGA is currently focused on three issues: 1) student professional development and collaboration (including sending students to various conferences), 2) campus culture as it relates to commuter students, and 3) branding the SGA.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.
Tim Culhan, Secretary

Present:

Andrea Abrams        Jane Goatley        Marie Nydam
Kyle Anderson        Elizabeth Graves    Kerry Paumi
J.H. Atkins          Sarah Hall          Stacey Peebles
Thomas Becker        Randy Hays          Laura Coleman Pritchard
Kathryn Bowles       Jeff Heath          Jacob Raderer
Cody Cook            Rasitha Jayasekare   Krista Rinehart
Willie Costley       Lee Jefferson       John Roush
Lenny Demoranville   Bruce Johnson       Forrest Stonedahl
David DeWitt         Joel Kilty          Ellen Swanson
Jason Doroga         Megan Haake Milby    Beau Weston
Sharon Duncan        Yvonne Morley       John Wilson
Sarah Egge           Bob Nesmith         Clarence Wyatt
Stephanie Fabritius  Gina Nicoletti
Beth Glazier-McDonald Megan Noltemeyer