

College Council Meeting Minutes October 27, 2016

The meeting of the College Council was called to order at 11:20 a.m.; President Roush presided. The minutes of the April 17, 2016, College Council meeting were approved as distributed.

President's Report

President Roush referenced the recent Board of Trustees meeting. Among other things, the Trustees heard reports on our record-breaking enrollment this fall and they received an update on fundraising and the campaign. President Roush also noted that we received a clean audit with no recommendations for the 2015-16 fiscal year. Brad Fields reported to the Board that 46% of the students in the entering class are student athletes, and 42% of all students are student athletes. Finally, President Roush announced that Beth Klein, parent of current student Casey Klein, was elected to the Board of Trustees.

Staff Congress

Stephen Swan noted that Staff Congress has stepped up efforts to solicit suggestions and concerns from the staff. In recent history, very few suggestions/concerns have been expressed and all were related to parking. This year, Staff Congress is responding to a number of suggestions, including issues related to job titles, custodial schedules, and the inclement weather policy.

Other Reports

Brief updates were given by Ann Young for the Student Life Office and by Megan Noltemeyer for the Convocations Committee.

Committee Reports

Most Council Committees were asked to review the committee's charge and to discuss whether or not the committee should continue to exist. Several committees reported on the discussion of those concerns.

Athletics and Recreation Committee

Sarah Murray reported that the committee met on October 3rd and, in considering the committee's charge, there was some discussion of its advisory role versus having any authority over the areas of athletics and recreation. In the end, members agreed that the committee should continue to exist as the committee provides a unique vehicle for getting input from students, faculty and staff. The committee plans to look at intramurals and how our programs compare to that of our peers.

Enrollment Management Committee

Dan Stroup reported that the Enrollment Management Committee met on Wednesday, October 19 and decided, with only one dissenting vote, to recommend that the committee continue in existence.

The committee concluded that it serves a number of important roles:

- The committee authorizes and legitimizes important policy decisions made by the Admissions Office. Most important here would be the annual discussion and approval of standards for Guideline admissions.
- The committee provides the Admissions office with useful feedback on its decisions and their implementation.
- The committee provides a forum for expression of concerns of the major constituency groups of the College—faculty, students, and staff—concerning admissions policies and practices. For example, student members recently suggested that students who host major scholarship candidates would have valuable insights that should be incorporated in deciding the awards. Procedures for registering that input will be included in this year's process.
- The committee provides a useful forum for discussion by representatives of all of these constituencies of issues related to Admissions. Last year, for example, we had an extended discussion about whether an enlarged student body would enable us to employ more selective admissions standards.
- The committee plays an important role in overseeing the work of the Admissions Office. This oversight role becomes all the more important as the Faculty has increasingly delegated to the Office nearly all of the

actual decisions regarding admissions and the awarding of major scholarships. Since the Faculty is no longer involved in making these decisions, it becomes all the more important that the Admissions Office be asked to explain its implementation of these delegated responsibilities. For example, we regularly receive and discuss reports on retention. We have directed the Admissions Office to assess the major scholarships and expect a report on this question in the spring. We have asked the Office to report to us on the process by which non-guideline admissions are made.

Human Resources Committee

Jim Morrison reported that the Human Resources Committee met on Sept. 22 and Oct. 4 to discuss renewal of our various health care benefits (the enrollment period is Nov. 1-8, 2016). Renewals for dental, vision, and EAP (Employee Assistance Program) were the same as last year. It was decided to switch our Life and Disability to Lincoln Financial (better benefits at somewhat less cost). The committee also voted to raise employee's health care premiums 10%, while the college is increasing its contribution to 20% (this was the best option available and was unanimously agreed to by the committee). The committee also met on Oct. 18 to hear from representatives from Humana Vitality about a program which offers rewards for healthy behavior (though there is an up-front cost). This proposal will be considered by the committee at its November meeting.

Planning and Priorities Committee

Patrick Noltemeyer reported that, to develop action items related to the fifth strategic direction, *Grounded, yet Ready for Change*, the Committee divided into four subcommittees. The first subcommittee, chaired by Jacky Seaver, is focused on identifying bold ways we might add strength to those things we already do well. The second subcommittee, chaired by Jacob Raderer, is identifying bold ways to enhance the student experience outside the classroom. The third subcommittee is developing action items related to technology, and is chaired by Dean Fabritius. The last subcommittee is chaired by Mark Rasmussen and is developing action items related to "what we might stop doing" to make us a nimbler and stronger place. It is noted that the College does not often take time to ask what we might stop doing, and the development of this subcommittee, tasked with asking these questions, is in itself, a bold initiative. The Planning and Priorities Committee plans to have action items developed by the end of the fall semester to share with the campus community and to be presented to the Board of Trustees at its meeting in January 2017.

Student Life Committee

Dave Frey reported that the committee met to discuss its charge and whether or not it should continue to exist. After an hour of discussion, there was no consensus on the latter question. The committee plans to continue the discussion.

Student Government Association

Sarah Hutchinson described an array of SGA activities so far this term, including the ongoing sinking spring restoration project, co-sponsorship of the "Beat the Blame Game" convo, collaborations with the STAND group, working with President Roush on the "Centre Dozen" project, getting the word out on the updated smoking policy, putting rocking chairs in front of the Student Center, and efforts related to the issues of sustainability and diversity and inclusion.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Tim Culhan, Secretary

Present:

Maria Apostolova-Mihaylova
Kathy Butterfield
Willie Costley
Emily Cranford
Brian Cusato
Brittany Duvall
Anne Evans
Dave Frey

Mark Galatowitsch
Karen Gill
Aaron Godlaski
Elizabeth Graves
Sarah Hutchinson
Danielle La Londe
Patten Mahler
Preston Miles

Yvonne Morley
Sarah Murray
Megan Noltemeyer
Patrick Noltemeyer
John Roush
Dan Stroup
Stephen Swan
Ann Young