

President's Council Meeting Notes – April 9, 2021

- 1) **Welcome** – Dr. Hanson welcomed attendees. Jesse Dorman welcomed and introduced Cory Moen, our new Director of Residence Life.
- 2) **Good News** - Several departments communicated highlights, including the following:
 - Heather Rinne – Thus far 119 students are signed up to participate in Commencement on May 8.
 - Matt Thielen – We are interviewing candidates this week for the Assistant Director of Res Life. Clara Edwards will be leaving campus at the end of the semester.
 - Jesse Dorman – Happy to report that the last few weeks we have had NO active COVID-19 cases on campus.
 - Tim Borchers – The Research & Creativity Expo went very well yesterday with 60 students participating. Special thanks to Dana Stovall in her preparation work for this event.
 - Cindy Cammack – There are 34 students registered to attend the Honors Program reception next Wednesday.
- 3) **Vaccination Update** – Jesse Dorman reported that vaccination clinics have progressed well. There were 92 who received the first dose and will be back today for the second dose. Well over half of faculty and staff have received the vaccine, including those who received vaccines off-campus. Yesterday and today we are offering the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine for students. **Students, faculty & staff may still sign up today to receive the single dose in the AWAC.**
- 4) **Accreditation Update** – Tim Borchers reported that we are less than a year away from the accreditation visit (March 28-29, 2022). Please mark your calendars for next year and do not plan travel during these days. Review teams for each of the five criteria have met several times. There was also a Town Hall to gather feedback.

Dr. Borchers will be writing a report draft this summer and the review teams will participate to offer feedback for the report. He provided a Federal Compliance document for all to access and will follow up with those who need to contribute. (see attached)

Dr. Borchers asked for all to give feedback via “chat” regarding how and when to share HLC documents throughout the next many months. In addition, there will be a marketing campaign and he asked all for slogan suggestions. Tip: Include the mission statement on documents to help all become familiar and begin to memorize the statement.

- 5) **S.A.A.M.** – Susanne Williams reported that April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. She has been meeting with several faculty members, staff and students the past few months to develop the activities we are offering on campus during April. Dr. Williams asked all to wear the teal ribbons and face masks (distributed to campus) during April (for sure on Tuesdays).

She was pleased to announce that over 60 people attended the SAAM event last week. In addition, she encouraged all to visit the exhibit in the Performing Arts Center, 2nd floor lobby, titled “What Were You Wearing?” In the coming days, t-shirts will be decorated and displayed in a “Clothesline Project” exhibit. Please save the date for a SAAM march on April 22 at 11:00 a.m. The same date will be Chalk the Walk – with messages of support and awareness on the quad sidewalks. Additional activities include a theatre presentation and denim day (contributions for

Project Response requested for denim day).

Dr. Williams thanked the group she has been working with, in addition to departments across campus for their help and support in developing and facilitating the SAAM events during April. **(See peru.edu/SAAM for details)**

6) Updates –

- a. **Enrollment** – Jesse Dorman shared an enrollment document, showing that numbers were down until the end of the first semester. Currently, apps and admits are up, although exact numbers are difficult to determine. Football is ahead of their normal schedule in their recruitment process and not all will commit to Peru. We have 120 signed up for orientation dates thus far. Dr. Dorman noted that our transfer numbers are up slightly and online is up 14% (much higher, over 50%, for graduate students – “Roaring Back”) from last year at this time.
- b. **Facilities** – Darrin Reeves reported on the following:
 - AWAC Roof – should be completed by April 23
 - ADA Project – will be seeding next week with final inspection April 13 and ribbon cutting April 21
 - Criminal Justice Project – electrical inspection set for Monday, followed by ceiling tile, carpet & doors
 - President’s Home – much of the renovation is complete, but still waiting on countertops & appliances
 - AWAC sign – to be installed within next two weeks
 - Grounds – preparing for commencement
- c. **Budget** – Jennifer Rieken reported that she has been attending CARES Act Fund & HEERF (Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds) webinars as well as working on reclaiming lost revenues. Dr. Hanson noted that we have thus far spent approximately \$413,000 to support students through these funds and there will be another \$1.5 million in future months. We are still waiting for government guidance on how the institutional fund portion can be spent. Jennifer has been in budget training with the System Office and she offered kudos to the conservative spending efforts by all on campus. The Budget committee will be meeting next Thursday – please see Jennifer for any who would like to attend.

7) Announcements –

- Racial Reconciliation group continues to meet weekly on campus. This group is offering Inclusive Communities workshops to campus (staff, faculty & students). The next opportunity is April 16th and another will be June 3rd. Watch for emails with registration links.
- CORE group also continues to meet weekly on campus. This group hosted its first CORE Conversation panel discussion which went very well. There will be a second CORE Conversation on April 20 at 11:00 a.m. All are encouraged to attend.
- Staff Senate Officer elections are coming and nominations are open. Please contact Crystal Hutson for more information.

- Chancellor Turman is assembling a Presidential Transition Team to assist Dr. Michael Evans and his wife Joanna in their transition to Peru State.
- Art Show will be opening on Sunday at 1:00 p.m. in the Art Gallery (artist Susan Woodford). All are invited to attend the opening event.

8) Future meeting dates – Monthly meetings usually on the second Friday of each month, September-May. The next meeting date will be **Friday, May 14, in the Jindra Black Box.**