

President's Council Meeting Notes – May 22, 2020

- 1) **Welcome** – President Hanson welcomed all on Zoom and thanked all for their time in attending this meeting.
- 2) **Good News** - Several departments communicated highlights, including the following:
 - Gina Bittner – Happy to report that 75% of our spring student teachers have jobs lined up for this fall.
 - Debbie White – The One Stop will have a new director in place on June 10...Mr. Keith Ellis will join the Bobcat community that day.
 - Cindy Cammack – The Admissions office has been practicing online enrollment and is prepared to enroll up to 100 students next Thursday/Friday, May 28-29.
 - Dan Hanson – Reporting for Wayne Albury that the average spring GPA for all athletic teams combined was above 3.0.
 - Tim Borchers – Our probation/suspension percentage after the spring semester is about the same as the last few years. Additionally, the freshman spring GPA was higher than recent years. These are encouraging statistics given the challenges of moving all classes online due to the pandemic.
 - Kristin Buscher – Students' survey responses showed very positive results about the online learning support this spring.
- 3) **HLC Update** – Kristin Buscher reminded all that the Higher Learning Commission will visit our campus in 2022. She thanked all who have registered to participate in review teams. Those teams will be finalized soon. Kristin will be in touch with all departments about collecting evidence. Please use the link provided previously to submit evidence - https://www.peru.edu/eform/view.php?id=507483&mf_page=1
- 4) **Student Satisfaction Survey** – Kristin Buscher reported that this was the second time our campus has participated in this RNL Student Satisfaction Survey, which measures how well student expectations are being met. The response rates for the two surveys were good, although slightly lower than two years ago. This survey allows Peru State to identify strengths and opportunities in order to make improvements. The top strengths and challenges that are identified are sent to students so they know the College is taking their feedback seriously. Kristin shared details of several responses, which can all be found in the R: drive (iResearch/Assessment/RNL Satisfaction Surveys).
- 5) **Fall Preparation** – Dr. Hanson reported that the campus Emergency Management Team is working to form an Implementation Team to prepare for the fall semester. Assuming that social distancing guidelines will still be in place, it is possible that additional class sections will be added. CDC guidelines are informing the system-wide response, which will be tailored to our campus. Dining options will be altered to fit the requirements. Travel and visitors will be limited. Dr. Hanson hopes we will have virus testing available. He encouraged all to forward suggestions to him or any of the VPs.
- 6) **Updates**

- a. Enrollment & Admissions – Jesse Dorman reported that online enrollment continues to increase. Prior to this year it was declining, so this is great news. Archer online leads have doubled in the last few weeks. Jesse noted that many prospective students are on “pause” while they wait to ensure colleges will be open in the fall. Although application numbers are 20% higher than last year at this time, actual “Admits” are 6% lower. Jesse is pleased with the levels we are maintaining, especially compared to some other schools. He announced that we are planning for virtual orientations this summer. The first virtual registration will be May 28-29.

Cindy Cammack reported that her team sent a letter from Dr. Hanson to incoming students, confirming to them that we will have classes on campus this fall. Admissions has three student workers calling fall 2020 inquiries and applicants, as well as high school juniors. These student workers are making great contacts. Although they have been doing virtual campus visits, Admissions will start having guests visit campus again when they get the official “go-ahead”.

Admissions has “Bobcat Bound” yard signs to place in the front yards of incoming freshmen. They need travel restrictions lifted in order to place many of the signs, although they have been able to place some already.

- b. Facilities – Darrin Reeves reported on several Facility Services projects including:
- **Student Housing** – Dorm rooms are being cleaned at the Complex, Morgan and Delzell.
 - **Roofing projects (\$1.7 million)** – The Admin roof is scheduled to start on May 26, followed by the metal roofing on the Oak Bowl.
 - **ADA project** – This project is in process. They are working on pouring the ramp to the mailroom.
 - **Hoyt** – New basement flooring will be installed this summer.
- c. Community Update – Dr. Hanson reported the on the following:
- Long-Term Recovery Group – The group is pursuing grant funding to support a one-year staff position. This person will help obtain the matching funds Peru needs in order to receive certain grants and government monies for infrastructure rebuilding.
 - Water – The City is still waiting to hear what FEMA will provide toward a permanent water solution. The Long-Term Recovery Group will pursue the additional funding needed in order to connect to Auburn or Nebraska City water. Dr. Hanson noted that the temporary water plant will need to be shut down for a week during the summer for maintenance. During that time, water will again be trucked to Peru.
 - Levee – The most recent encouraging news concerning the needed levee repair is that Congressman Adrian Smith has proposed wording for the new WRDA

(Water Resources Development Act) bill that would support a levee repair at Peru.

- 7) **CARES Act** – Half of the CARES Act funding the College receives will go to students and the other half to the institution, which will go to Peru State’s Revenue Bond Fund. Dr. Hanson reported that over 250 students have applied for this need-based financial assistance and, of those, 181 meet the eligibility requirements. The College will be announcing these awards next week. Matt Thielen noted that the students who applied did a good job of articulating how the pandemic has impacted them.

- 8) **Future meeting dates** – Monthly meetings usually on the second Friday of each month, September-May. The next meeting date will be **Friday, Sept. 11, 2020**.