

President's Council Meeting Notes – April 7, 2017

1) Good News - Several departments communicated highlights, including the following:

- Kyle Ryan – PBL had great success in their competition and he reported that UNL had made it their sole goal to beat PSC. Doane University and Wesleyan did not even stay for the awards ceremony knowing that there were 30 PSC students competing.
- Ellie Kunkel – She had a great meeting with the principal at Johnson Brock. He is very excited to partner with the College. Our students will be tutoring theirs and providing other activities.
- Jesse Dorman – The Prestige concert went very well in the Live Oak space. The event was successful thanks to the collaboration of several departments who worked to make it so.
- Tim Borchers – Exciting news that we will be having an induction meeting on April 8th for the new Psi Chi chapter on campus (psychology honor society). The student art exhibit will also be opening this weekend on April 9th. Tim gave a shout out to Admissions for the mailing they sent his son. It was very personalized and stood out above the rest.
- Adam Neveau – Announced that student leaders had hosted the Iron Bobcat, an event that was very well attended and drew more than 300 students over the week.
- Cindy Cammack – Pleased to announce that Jari Dunekacke has accepted the position of Assistant Director and will be training with Barb Jones as much as possible before Barb retires on June 30th.
- Cheryl Reid – Financial Aid is now fully staffed! This is the first time since January 4th!
- President Hanson – The student-written theater production was well done and the first annual Art Day was a successful event (60+ students attended).

2) Review of last meeting – Notes from March 10, 2017 – no changes.

3) Student payment process for unpaid balances – Kathy Tynon reported that an administrative withdrawal letter had been sent out in Feb. to students with unpaid balances, urging them to make a plan to pay their balance so their enrollment wouldn't be cancelled. Some students responded but others did not. Kathy asked Dr. Seay and Dr. Galardi to send personal emails to those students who hadn't responded and there was a much better response rate using this method. She worked with Jesse Dorman and Adam Neveau to develop a formal process for how to manage the students with unpaid balances. They produced a timeline and communicated with students using the personal messages from the deans. Kathy was pleased to note that all of the enrollments were saved through this process!

4) Updates

A. Strategic Plan – Dr. Hanson announced that the committee has talked extensively and will now move to draft a final plan. Engagement will be foundational in that plan, as a result of the town hall discussions. The values included will be Pride, Excellence, Resilience, and Unity (P.E.R.U.) and there will be four broad goals, each with specific strategies for achieving them. The four goals included will be:

- 1) Academic Excellence through Engagement
- 2) Transformative Student Experience
- 3) Sharing the Peru State Story
- 4) Excellence for the Future

There will be additional town hall meetings for further campus discussion. The challenge will be to select the RIGHT ideas as there will be too many to include them all. Dr. Hanson also

reported that the overall vision will focus on transforming student lives, which highlights the strength of the College.

- B. Ruffalo Noel Levitz consultation** – Cindy Cammack thanked all who participated in these sessions. She has received a 57-page report from RNL and has shared with the VPs and with the freshman recruitment committee. The report will be posted/shared with the campus community as well. Cindy has 28 observations and recommendations including data issues/collection, proactive referral strategy, using nice mailers in recruitment process, and additional financial aid training with admissions staff.
- C. Budget** – Kathy Carroll gave the updates:
- 1) Current year: The legislature cut the PSC budget by 4% (\$421,000). Most of this amount was absorbed by salary savings and some excess revenue. She is still hoping to have extra funds at the end of the year to use on some additional projects.
 - 2) Next year: The legislature is still debating in committee. A former PSC student, Rachel Henry, gave a great testimony for the College. We will know in about one month what the appropriation for next year will be. A slight increase has been proposed, but that will not be enough to cover the necessary items. The Budget Committee has been very helpful in determining where the cuts will be so as to spread them out evenly.
- D. Facilities** – Kathy Carroll reported on the following:
- 1) Fencing will go up around the theater very soon for the demolition of the 3-story section on the south end. A few trees will be lost in the process but new trees will be planted. Geo-thermal heating/cooling will be installed. The work is being done by the same contractor that worked on the field house. It is scheduled to be completed July 2018.
 - 2) The demolition of Neal Hall has been completed, although clean-up is still underway.
 - 3) Campus Services has a projects page that is being updated regularly. Please visit the page for news and photos on various facilities projects: <http://www.peru.edu/services/projects>
 - 4) The fountain will be moved to a new location on the quad, hopefully near the spot where the original fountain stood. The plan for this is being developed.
 - 5) Dr. Borchers noted that it is a juggling act to schedule events in the AWAC with the theater being closed. There will be a meeting on Tuesday, April 18th in the AWAC skybox for discussions on this matter.
- E. Sesquicentennial** – Dr. Hanson announced that the new business cards have the sesquicentennial motto on them. He invited all to attend commencement on May 6th as this will be the sesquicentennial kick-off and the governor will be giving the keynote address. Other dates to keep in mind are June 20th (Charter Day commemoration, with both daytime activities and evening reception/banquet) and October 28th (Homecoming). Please visit the PSC 150 web page for details and registration <http://www.peru.edu/150/>.
- F. VPMSA Transition Plan** – Dr. Hanson offered congratulations to Dr. Jesse Dorman who has accepted the VPMSA position and will begin duties on July 1st. The search has begun for a new Dean of Students with the hope that the position will be filled when Jesse transitions to VPMSA. Dr. Hanson noted that the transfer of Athletics oversight will be a gradual transition to Dr. Dorman over the remainder of 2017.

5) Announcements

- Spring recognition luncheon will be Monday, May 1st. Please RSVP to Amy Mincer at amincer@peru.edu.
- Our new chapter of Psi Chi will hold its induction meeting Saturday, April 8th.
- The student art exhibit grand opening will be Sunday, April 9th.
- Field House ribbon cutting is scheduled for April 22nd, along with the spring game.
- The new Visitor and Interpretive Center (located in the little red schoolhouse) grand opening/ribbon cutting will be on commencement day, May 6th at 1:00pm.
- Phi Alpha Theta is hosting their annual murder mystery fundraiser on April 21-22.
- Dr. Daryl Long's retirement reception and dinner is being hosted by the Foundation on Saturday, April 29th. Please contact the Foundation for reservations.
- The Auburn High School prom will be held on campus this weekend, April 8th.
- Kudos to Campus Services from Creative Dining for all of their help to make sure events run smoothly!

6) Future meeting dates - Next meeting date is May 11th at 11:00am in CATS Conference Room.