

## President's Council Meeting Notes – September 8, 2017

**1) Welcome** – Dr. Hanson welcomed all and reviewed the *Leadership Commitment* and *Role of the President's Council*, which are both listed on the agenda page. He noted that he wants the Council meetings to be a valuable use of time and is open to suggestions, including asking for agenda items each month.

**2) Introduction of New Members** – Dr. Hanson introduced new attendees: Paul Hinrichs (Dean of Arts & Sciences), Mason White (Director of Financial Aid), Matt Thielen (Dean of Students), Emily Volker (Chair of Professional Staff Senate), Mary Goebel-Lundholm (Chair of Faculty Senate), Crystal Hutson (Student Activities), Trey Nelson (Student Senate President)

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

- Eulanda Cade – HR has launched the new applicant tracking system and they are getting open positions posted. They will be doing search committee training soon.
- Ellie Kunkel – Happy to report that both Brandy Van Der Kamp (new Project Coordinator) and Stephanie Holmes (new Director of Field Experiences & Certification Officer) are doing a great job of learning their new jobs WHILE still doing their old jobs. She was also thankful their office will soon have a new Office Assistant.
- Cindy Cammack – Admissions office will be sending letters to incoming freshmen for next fall, offering scholarships if they qualify. The office is also excited for Keri Bensheimer, who is getting married on September 16. She also gave a shout out to Campus Services on the recent renovations to the Admissions Office.
- Steve Schneider – Thanks to Creative Dining for their helpful service with the Football and Volleyball camps. Additional thanks to the AWAC custodial staff! Steve acknowledged Ted Harshbarger's great efforts in getting out daily press releases. He also announced that PSC has been awarded the silver level Champions of Character Five-Star Institution by the NAIA.
- Jill McCormick – Shout out to Neiman Sneed's great sports promo productions!
- Greg Galardi – Offered congrats to Cassie Weitzenkamp who is getting married this weekend. He appreciates Coach Ludwig's commitment to his student-athlete's being in class (faculty have noticed this). Dr. Galardi also recognized Brooke Earnest's great accomplishments both in the office/advising and with the Cheer Team, which has participated in many outside events over the summer and into the fall. Additionally, he wants to acknowledge the great efforts by the Jari and Keri team in Admissions. They are doing an excellent job taking over the role of Barb Jones.
- Dr. Hanson – Noted that student Gunnar Orcutt was awarded the Heart conference A.O. Duer award in July and is now in consideration for the national award. He also mentioned that today is Feeding 44 on the campus, an outreach effort that serves over 250 people. PSC is in a new partnership with Nebraska Methodist College and Dr. Borchers has arranged for them to send some students to PSC during Feeding 44 to offer diabetic outreach services.
- Matt Thielen – Praised the Welcome Week staff and events. It was a very encouraging start for the school year!

**4) Homecoming** – Deborah Solie distributed a promotional post card for Homecoming and a list of events planned for the weekend (Oct. 27-28). She noted that there are special events being planned throughout Homecoming week, including on Oct. 24 when PSC will celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first day of classes. The Homecoming parade will have some special features this year, such as alumni band and past kings/queens. The committee is also challenging the buildings on campus to

decorate for Homecoming as they did years ago. Crystal Hutson announced that email instructions will be sent pertaining to this. See [peru.edu/150](http://peru.edu/150) for more information on these events.

#### 5) A.D. & VPAF Searches –

- A. A.D. – Dr. Hanson reported that this vacancy has been posted and the search committee, co-chaired by Dr. Hanson and Dr. Dorman, will begin meeting on September 12. He also reported that an outside consultant is coming to campus to help move our Athletics department forward for the future.
- B. VPAF – Dr. Hanson announced that to ensure the best possible results for our VPAF search a national search firm will be used. The search firm will provide intense and targeted research to find qualified candidates who are a good institutional fit. The firm will provide consistent and active follow up with candidates through the selection of the finalists for the position.

#### 6) Updates

- A. **Strategic Plan** – Dr. Hanson reviewed that updates were presented at the all-campus meeting recently. He distributed a few copies of the SP framework-to-date. Four subcommittees have been charged with developing and finalizing the initiatives for the Plan. In addition, a Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) planning committee has been formed, co-chaired by Dr. Borchers and Dr. Dorman. This committee will meet throughout the year and will explore/develop ways to enhance enrollment at PSC.
- B. **Budget** – Tammie Hart shared a handout and reviewed Revenue year-to-date. In summary, we are short approximately \$450,000 this year. The Budget Committee is working to find ways to handle this shortfall (i.e., salary savings from open positions). Tammie reported that our operational budget is stronger today than it has been since she began working at PSC. Dr. Hanson noted we are also experiencing a dip in enrollment and we will work to develop strategies for boosting these numbers.
- C. **Facilities** – Jill McCormick reported on the following:
  - 1) Delzell – Working on punch list items at this point.
  - 2) Theater – Footings will be installed soon.
  - 3) Complex Fire Sprinklers – These are being updated in all buildings at the Complex, continuing through the school year and into next summer.
  - 4) Faculty Housing – Getting refurbished.
  - 5) Painting – Have been using an outside contractor to speed up campus painting projects (exterior Student Center, Library Coffee Shop, Hoyt 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> floors, Jindra).

#### 7) Announcements

- Matt Hill said the Concert Choir will be giving an alumni-exclusive *Heritage Concert* performance on Friday, Oct. 27, for those here for Homecoming. The campus and community concert will be on Thursday, October 26, at 7pm. Nebraska composers, or those with ties to them, wrote the music for these concerts. Matt announced that students will have the chance to work with a famous Nebraska composer, Jackson Berkey (Manheim Steamroller).
- Adam Neveau noted that Boo Bash will be on October 29<sup>th</sup>, which is the day after Homecoming.

8) **Future meeting dates** - Next meeting date is October 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am in CATS Conference Room.

9) **Employee Campus Climate Survey Results** – For those who had not yet seen her presentation, Kristin Buscher shared these results, which are available on the R: drive in the iResearch folder. The survey

consists of 14 factors, measuring perceptions of the institution, peers, staff, policies, campus safety, sexual assault, campus training, and more. PSC has made good improvement in all of these factors over the past few years. There is still improvement needed in a few of the factors, including how students view their peers and the administration, as well as campus safety.