

President's Council Meeting Notes – Sept. 17, 2021

- 1) **Welcome** – President Evans welcomed all and asked Council members to introduce themselves. He also reviewed the Role of the group as listed on the agenda and asked for feedback. Michael reviewed the Leadership Commitment, also listed on the agenda, and elaborated on #1 “Empowering employees to make a difference.” He shared how Disney employees are empowered to make a difference. The company mission is “We create happiness” and employees are guided by the statement “It’s OK to be off-task if you’re on-mission.” They are empowered to make good decisions and therefore make a difference.
- 2) **Good News** - Several departments communicated highlights, including the following:
 - Max Kathol – The School of Professional Studies is happy to have their new dean, Dr. Amber Mahan, and she is doing a great job.
 - Debbie White – Congratulations to the football team on its two wins thus far!
 - Crystal Hutson – Glad to report that student engagement is increasing this semester, including the 75 students who participated in the Duck Creek Kayak event.
 - Cory Moen – The Residence Hall Association (RHA) has a full Board once again and is planning activities and initiating campus improvements.
 - Paul Trana – Glad to report that staff are requesting assessment data and reports from him.
 - Dwayne Chism – The School of Ed is preparing for accreditation reports and the process is going well.
 - Darrin Reeves – Congratulations to the athletic teams – 10 of 13 have achieved Academic All-American status!
- 3) **Fall Recruitment Events** – Jari Dunekacke reported the following for the Admissions team:
 - The team has attended 19 high school events since August and will be attending a total of 110 events through December.
 - We will host a college fair on campus on Sept. 29 from 9:30-11:00 a.m. High school juniors and seniors will attend to learn about the (approximately) 40 colleges participating.
 - High-Demand Career Day – This event is scheduled for October 29.
 - Tour & Tailgate – This event is scheduled for November 6, which is the same day as the Craft Fair being held in the AWAC.
 - Campus visits are increasing and are offered Monday-Friday 3x daily. In addition, we have nine group visits scheduled between now and the end of October.
 - Faculty are welcomed and encouraged to join the Admissions events – campus visits or high school events. See the Admissions team to arrange.
 - Last week, Jari participated in a presentation via Zoom to 320 high school counselors.
- 4) **Accreditation** – Tim Borchers reported that the Quality Initiative was accepted in July and we are now fine tuning the self-study report, which is due Feb. 28. He shared a handout with all, detailing the timeline and process moving forward. There will be town hall meetings to discuss criteria and review the report draft. Tim requested that any who can submit evidence on the following do so:
 - Staff professional development
 - Documentation of decision-making that uses evidence

- Assessment findings, reflection on findings, improvement plans

Tim reviewed the Federal Compliance Review requirements, noting that most fall under the Academic Affairs department. He asked that all keep March 28-29 open on calendars for the on-campus visit.

5) Master Plan & more – Debbie White reported on the following:

- Master Plan - Many on campus participated in the recent listening sessions with RDG, the architectural firm selected to develop the master plan. RDG will return to campus several more times and will submit a report to the Board of Trustees at their January Board meeting.
- Indoor Sports Complex – Leo A. Daly has been selected to develop the plan for this sports and recreational complex. They will be on campus to hold listening sessions and receive campus feedback.
- Geothermal – We are working to expand geothermal across the entire campus.
- COVID funding – The College has received funding for infrastructure needs and also for distributing to students as scholarships.

6) Updates

- Enrollment** – Jesse Dorman reported that Fall Term II will begin on Oct. 25. Enrollment numbers are looking good now and will continue to grow until that start date.
- COVID** – Jesse Dorman reported that there are currently four active student cases on campus (39 so far this semester) and no active staff/faculty cases (two so far this semester). Nemaha County COVID-19 case levels remain high but our campus levels are slowing. We are offering weekly testing on Wednesdays in the Student Center. In addition, students may sign up to take our shuttle ride to the Health Department for vaccinations. Jesse reported that approximately 46% of our students have been vaccinated.
- Facilities** – Darrin Reeves reported on the following:
 - Tuck pointing to be done on Morgan Hall.
 - Grass seed is being planted where needed.
 - Faculty housing has been painted.
 - Recently hired one custodian and one maintenance repair worker, but still have openings to fill.

7) Q&A – President Evans offered time for Q&A:

- Max Kathol noted the B103 article about the Nemaha County Board of Commissioners and the request brought to them to use available funding for broadband installation in the area. The Commissioners have not approved the request, so Max suggested that we send a letter of support from the College.

8) Announcements –

- Homecoming is Sept. 24-25. All staff & faculty are invited to attend the alumni banquet on Friday night as guests of the Foundation. Please RSVP to the Foundation office. For Homecoming information, see www.peru.edu/homecoming.
- The new court has been installed in the AWAC gym.

- We have a new UTV for use by athletic trainers.
- New weightlifting equipment will be installed in the AWAC and the old equipment will be moved to the building at the north end of the football field to provide an additional weight room.
- Nov. 6 – Craft Show in the AWAC
- In response to student demand, Late Night Bob hours will be shortened by 30 minutes (new time 9:00-10:30 p.m.) and that 30 minutes will be added to the dinner hour (new time 5:00-7:30 p.m.).

9) Future meeting dates – Second Friday of month at 11:00 a.m. in CATS. Next meeting will be October 8, 2021.