

President's Council Meeting Notes – December 13, 2019

- 1) **Welcome** – President Hanson thanked all for supporting students through another semester. He reminded all that part of the Council's role is to promote communication and information sharing, such as the Good News announced at meetings.
- 2) **Good News** - Several departments communicated highlights, including the following:
 - Cindy Cammack – Pleased to announce that the Admissions Office is finally fully staffed with the recent hiring of Maureen Koso. She formerly worked as a para with the Auburn Public Schools.
 - Wayne Albury – Football player, Nick Novak, has been selected as an Academic All-American.
 - Paul Hinrichs – Following a recent visit to the UNMC College of Dentistry by PSC administrators and faculty, we are looking forward to having two RHOP Dental and two RHOP Dental Hygiene spots coming in the future.
 - Annie Neveau – The Foundation is very excited to announce they have received a \$1.8 million gift! This gift will award \$72,000 annually in need-based scholarships, which will be transformational for future students. Dr. Hanson added that they are expecting an additional \$300,000.
 - Gina Bittner – The School of Education is excited about three upcoming events:
 - Feb. 14 – “Engaging Educators” will bring 700-750 area educators to campus for this event.
 - April 3 – “Peru State 101” will bring (hopefully) 100 prospective students to campus to experience the theme: A Day in the Life of a Bobcat.
 - April 24 – Special Olympics Nebraska will take place on campus.
- 3) **HLC Criteria** – Tim Borchers reminded all that the HLC campus visit has been scheduled for March 28-29, 2022. They will visit classes, talk with students, collect documents, etc., and then write a report. Tim reviewed the new Peru State mission statement, noting that HLC will judge the College by how well it lives its mission:

Peru State College provides students of all backgrounds access to engaging educational experiences to strengthen and enrich communities, Nebraska and the world.

Kristin Buscher distributed a T/F quiz for all to complete. The questions were focused around HLC and its accrediting practices. She went on to review information about HLC and its accreditation process, while Dr. Borchers listed the four components of the process:

- Assurance Review
- Federal Compliance Review
- Quality Initiative – due June 1, 2021
- On-Site Peer Review Visit – March 28-29, 2022

Tim distributed other documents, which he asked all to keep and review:

- **Assumed Practices** – please take note how your department is involved in these
 - **Criteria for Accreditation:**
 - Mission – show we are guided by the Peru State mission
 - Integrity – ethical and responsible conduct
 - Teaching & Learning: Quality, Resources & Support

- Teaching & Learning: Evaluation & Improvement
- Resources, Planning & Institutional Effectiveness
- **HLC Accreditation Visit Timeline** – Note that review teams will be developed this spring. Fall of 2020 will include town hall gatherings and meeting with review teams. The Quality Initiative is due June 1, 2021. The Self-Study and other reports are due Feb. 28, 2022 (one month before the campus visit).
- **Glossary of Criteria Terminology**
- In addition, Kristin Buscher has accreditation information included on the assessment web page <https://www.peru.edu/oira/>

4) Website Transition – Jason Hogue announced that the vendor for our current content management system, Word Press, no longer exists. We are researching new vendors and will be selecting a new content management system for the website. Progress reports will be announced as this process continues.

5) Updates

- a. Online Recruitment – Tim Borchers reported for Jesse Dorman. Admissions and Online Services are having regular meetings with Archer. We are seeing results already with this new initiative – 59 applications for spring have been received thus far. Cindy Cammack noted that Admissions is in daily communication with Archer and they are great to work with. Dr. Hanson confirmed that the College is pleased with the progress.
- b. SEM Initiatives – Wayne Albury reported that the addition of four JV sports programs is going very well thus far. From the coaches’ reports, the retention numbers should be good. Two assistant bowling coaches have been hired and we are still looking for a head coach. Initial bowling tryouts were successful and there will be two more. The men’s cross country coach has been hired and is very excited about the opportunity. He will start work soon, as will a new assistant volleyball coach. Wayne noted that we are still looking for a dance coach. He also reported that the head football coaching position has been posted and we already have 49 applicants. Competitive cheer is training and will be active this spring.
- c. Admissions – Cindy Cammack distributed a list of upcoming Admissions events including:
 - January 12 – Transfer Student Orientation
 - February 8 – Spring Tour & Tailgate
 - February 17 – Music Auditions
 - March 20 – Scholarship Luncheon
 - April 3 – “Peru State 101” – a day in the life of a Bobcat (School of Education)
 - May 29, June 12, June 19, July 10, August TBD – Freshman Orientation
 She thanked Fresh Ideas for their help with student visitors and guests. She noted that the Admissions department has spoken with 340 potential students by phone during the fall semester. Application numbers have increased and campus visits are up 3%.
- d. Facilities – Dr. Hanson announced that today is Jill McCormick’s last day to report for her department, as she will be leaving the College next week for a new employment

opportunity. He thanked her for her excellent work over the years. Jill reported on the following projects:

- Hail Damage/Roof Repairs – This will be a \$1.7 million project and will be aided by LB309. Upon completion, the roofs will be scanned for integrity.
 - ADA Walkway – Only one bidder participated and the bid was 25% higher than anticipated, so they will be going out for bids again.
 - **Reminder – please unplug and turn off electrical appliances, etc. before leaving for the long holiday break.**
- e. City Water – Dr. Hanson reported that the temporary water treatment plant is barely providing for the town’s needs. He asked all to continue to use good water conservation practices. There are only two remaining options for a long-term solution:
- Connect to Auburn water
 - Drill new wells – unsure where these would be located due to ongoing flooding
- He encouraged all to attend the City Council meetings – next meeting Dec. 16. The City of Peru is waiting to hear what flood costs FEMA will help cover. To assist the town with recovery efforts, a Long-Term Recovery Group has been established. This group is working to pursue resources for rebuilding and repairing Peru’s infrastructure.

6) Announcements –

- Dr. Hanson announced a new proposal of a partnership between the College and the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution. This program is the result of good work by Dr. Borchers and the Criminal Justice Faculty. If funded, it would provide \$15,000 annually for each student. The funding remains in the Governor’s budget and Dr. Hanson is hopeful it will move forward.
- Matt Thielen announced that eleven students have used the Blue Rivers transportation program to travel to the Omaha airport.
- Dr. Borchers noted that the Professional Studies dean search was unsuccessful so they will launch a new search in January and hope to have a new dean in July.

7) Future meeting dates – Monthly meetings usually on the second Friday of each month, September-May. The next meeting date will be **Friday, January 17**.