

President's Council Meeting Notes May 13, 2022

- 1) **Welcome** – Michael Evans welcomed all and thanked those involved in our successful commencement event. He reflected on the students' variety of emotions that he observed during the presenting of diplomas.

Leadership Perspective – Greg Seay shared with the group that “little things matter.” Procedurally, there are so many “little things” that come together to bring a student to campus, retain them, and see them to graduation. He encouraged all to make personal connections with others on campus. Building relationships with our colleagues ends up helping students succeed. Greg noted several examples of his office building connections with other departments on campus and the impact these relationships make.

(NOTE: Jon Robertson volunteered to bring the Leadership Perspective to the next President's Council meeting in September.)

Michael offered updates on the following:

- Title IX Coordinator – the System Office has hired a new Title IX Coordinator, Tom Green.
 - Geothermal Delay – The geothermal project that was planned for the quad this summer has been delayed due to elevated bids for the project. The quad will NOT be torn up this summer, but likely will be next summer (2023).
 - Indoor Rec Center – The program statement has been developed and presented to the Board of Trustees (and approved) at their April meeting. The State has already approved the bond funding for this project, although a lower amount than previously thought. This means our campus will need to raise \$4 million in addition to the bond funds, which will be a record-breaking amount, if successful. Michael is meeting with Faculty Senate and Staff Senate to review this project.
 - 10-Year Master Plan – The new Plan was approved by the Board at the April meeting. It is a detailed analysis of future needs for campus facilities, landscaping, etc. It is nice to have the Board's pre-approval on all the potential projects in the Plan.
 - Knowledge Continuity Project – Michael reviewed his plan for this new effort, which will address the issue of staff members who carry much job knowledge in their heads. If this knowledge is not well documented for continuity's sake, it leaves the campus quite vulnerable if there is a sudden/untimely loss of such employee. This project will be moving forward over the next year.
- 2) **Good News** - Several departments communicated highlights, including the following:
 - Keith Bailey – Excited to announce two new full-time employees (and possibly a third) will start work on June 1.
 - Cory Moen – End of semester residence hall closing went well, with less damage in dorm rooms this year than last.
 - Paul Trana – Progress continues on the State Data Warehouse. Paul is learning much from staff at the other state colleges.
 - Jesse Dorman – Pleased that two positions have been filled: Denise Lickteig as Financial Aid Director and Ashleigh Eickhoff as Campus Visits Coordinator.

- Wayne Albury – Our new football coach, Phil Ockinga, has hired an Offensive Coordinator (H.T. Kinney) and continues to search for a Defensive Coordinator.

3) Updates

- HLC Follow-Up** – Tim Borchers reported that the HLC report has arrived. He shared a summary of the good news, compliments, and recommendations. Peru State has met all the criteria for accreditation. Tim asked all to continue working on the recommendations so that we are prepared for the next review. Good record-keeping is very helpful when it comes to evidence-gathering and will help with our 2025 - 26 report.
- Enrollment** – Jesse Dorman reported that freshman enrollment is trending behind. Last year, we had a high number of freshmen athletes, which will not be the case this year. Currently, Orientation registration is behind 23% compared to last year. Housing reservations are similarly behind for freshmen, yet significantly up for returning students. We have added many scholarships that should attract more students, and we are getting the scholarships out early to potential students. Many high school seniors are still early in their selection process.
- Facilities** – Keith Bailey reported on the following:
 - Grounds – All grounds were spruced up for graduation. Currently, we are using an outside contractor for mowing, but with the new staff coming on June 1, we will be able to do more grounds work.
 - HVAC – Exciting to get this work done. We have purchased the supplies to complete HVAC work in several buildings and now need to get the contractors scheduled.
 - Cooling Tower – This has been cleaned and is operating much better.
 - New Boilers – Two new boilers have been installed. It is great to have new, reliable equipment.
 - Vans – The vandalism has been repaired.
 - Lighting – We hope to update the lighting in the Fieldhouse. Hopefully, this work will begin before the fall semester starts.

4) Q&A

- Q - Should staff use the work order form to report facility requests?
A – Yes, however if the need is immediate, please call the office instead (ext. 2257).
- Q – When will the new tuition rates be approved?
- A – At the June BOT meeting.

5) Announcements

- Senior Art Show is still on display in the art gallery. Go see it!
- Paul Hinrichs has a new grandson – Barrett Paul Wheeler
- Jon Robertson thanked all who replied to email requests from the auditors. He reminded all that the end of the fiscal year is coming, so please submit receipts asap - refer to email from Jon for deadlines.
- First two Orientations will be May 20 and 25.
- Athletics is holding their annual golf fundraiser on May 27 in Nebraska City.

There are still spots available.

- Thanks to the efforts of Ted Harshbarger, we are reinstating the Boxley scholarships.
- On behalf of the Foundation, Ted thanked all who helped with the April events. He noted the following upcoming events:
 - June 9 – Omaha alumni event
 - June 20 – Charter Day scholarship giving drive
 - July 23 – Young alumni event at the Omaha Storm Chasers game

6) Future meeting dates – Second Friday of month (September - May) at 11:00 a.m. in CATS. Next meeting is September 9, 2022.