

President's Council Minutes

April 27, 2022

Prepared by: Deb Zielinski

Attendees: Meghan Hughes, Alix Ogden, Deb Zielinski, Amy Kempe, Barbara Nauman, Bobby Gondola, Suzanne Carr, John Cole, Michael Cunningham, Greg LaPointe, Kelly Morrissey, Phil Gordon, Rosemary Costigan, Sybil Bailey, Tara Abbascia, Jude Tomasino, Mike McNally, Sean Collins, Amy Kacerik, Tracy Karasinski, Tekla Moquin, Andréa Ray, Nathan Brown, Awilda Reinoso, and student guest, Erin Ingebretsen.

Welcome & Introduction

Meghan welcomed everyone, and Michael Cunningham introduced our student guest, Erin Ingebretsen, who shared his background and talked about his election as President of the Knight Campus Student Government. Bobby asked Erin about his engagement at the Lincoln Campus. Erin advised that he is working with Deans Cunningham and Jenkins to engage personally with all campuses. Meghan thanked Erin for inspiring all at the table with his story and vision for student leadership.

Minutes of 01/26/22 (previously distributed)

Meghan called for a motion to approve the Council minutes dated 01/26/22. Tekla made a motion to approve, Tracy seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

President's Update

- Meghan gave a budget and legislative update;
- Reported on the changes in leadership at RIC and Council on Postsecondary Education;
- Provided an enrollment update; and
- Spoke about the end of semester events, particularly Commencement & Raising Opportunities.

Policy Presentations

- Greg brought forward a Release of Transcripts Policy. In the course of conducting their due diligence, it was shown that holds on student accounts for non-payment is not an effective practice. In working with our Finance team, eliminating the holds for non-payment will not have a significant impact. A motion to approve was made by Alix, seconded by Bobby, and unanimously approved.

Divisional Updates

Academic Affairs – Rosemary Costigan

- Rosemary gave update on recent program approvals, including Environmental Sustainability, the restart of certificate in Massage Therapy, and certificate in Personal Training.
- Rosemary acknowledged JoAnn Orabone and DECA's national award; Theater Arts for recognition of numerous student achievements, as well as Ted Clement for receiving this year's Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region I Medallion for his decade-long service to KCACTF and his more than 25 years' worth of experience as a theater student, artist, mentor, and educator.
- Interviews for Dean of AHSS are ongoing; Meghan thanked John Cole for his leadership.

Student Services – Greg LaPointe, Amy Kacerik, Michael Cunningham

- Greg provided a detailed update on our spring enrollment position and thanked Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Human Resources, and IT.
- Amy provided update on Summer '22 enrollment. She indicated that fall applications are up, particularly with regard to RIP. Amy talked about the 40-60 split (online/on campus).
- Michael provided updates regarding commencement. Presently, approximately 730 students will participate, 120 from the classes of '20 and '21. There are 32 marshals and 3 Grand Marshals – Julie Galeshaw '20, Marie Mansella, '21, and Susan Sienkiewicz, '22. Michael offered brief background of student speaker, Ryk McIntyre.

- Greg thanked Phil Gordon and team for compiling the data.
- Meghan referred to Amy's comment on the 40-60 split, indicating she will look to Rosemary to see where the college lands on this issue. It is a complicated question. The outcomes are not the same, and we have an obligation to support strong learning outcomes.

Administration – Alix Ogden

- Alix provided an update about COVID, including how the CDC has changed how they look at the severity of COVID, the new approach about positivity rates and hospital positions. We continue to be fortunate here, in that the times we have seen on-campus transmission, we have been able to manage with contact tracers. There has not been a lot of transmission in the classrooms. We did see increase with Omicron.
- We do not have higher ed institution guidance from the CDC, but hope to have answers by mid-May.
- We will follow 'Dunk protocols at commencement.
- Marketing & Communications won its first ever gold medal for the video on Guided Pathways.
- Bids open on 5/4 for the Student Services project and the build-out of the field house over the summer.
- Michael Campbell has joined HR as the new Talent Acquisition Specialist.

Workforce Partnerships – Tekla Moquin

- Tekla reported that the division had a strong Q3 and is on track to meet revenue goals for this year.
- Tekla shared some Q3 divisional highlights and Q4 planned happenings.

Campus Leadership – Amy Kempe

- Amy reported that the college has submitted for the \$1m Lumina Community College Challenge and were one of 10 community colleges awarded an initial grant of \$100,000, which will be earmarked for branding and advertising efforts to attract and retain adult learners.
- Regarding NCC, the campus is trying to be seen more as a community partner and focusing on how we can serve. On 5/14, NCC is hosting a rent relief event and community resource fair in conjunction with the Office of the Governor.

Institutional Advancement – Bobby Gondola

- Bobby reported on the \$1m Lumina Community College Challenge; Lumina recognizes the need to invest in community colleges.
- Bobby gave Q3 update, including the CCRI Foundation and Alumni Association & Board are the recipients of the AGB John W. Nason Award for Board Leadership – the first ever bestowed on a community college. He reviewed division activities, top commitments, largest asks, gave details about Raising Opportunities and Tribute to Talent before commencement, the reinvigoration of the Green & White, and annual meeting.

DEI – Andréa Ray

- Andréa provided updates on DEI & OD priorities and activities.

Information Technology – Nathan Brown

- Nathan reported on IT's three priorities:
 1. Team (hiring, developing/modernizing job descriptions, provide career growth, training)
 2. Enterprise applications (hire director of enterprise applications; hire team, build release development and release processes to streamline and speed up the cycle and get customer buy-in)
 3. Infrastructure & Cybersecurity (wired improvements, redesign of network for improved performance and security, consider migration of infrastructure to the cloud).

Meghan introduced Awilda Reinoso, Manager of Executive Operations. If there is interest in presenting to the President's Council beyond the traditional division reports, let her know.