

Senior Staff Meeting
February 22, 2010
Meeting Notes

Attending: Don Bantz, Eddy Brown, John Carmichael, Art Costantino, Susan Harris, Lee Hoemann, Steve Hunter, John Hurley, Todd Sprague, Ken Tabbutt, Allen Toothaker, Steve Trotter, Laurel Uznanski

Absent: Les Purce, Julie Suchanek

Review of minutes

The minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting were approved with two changes.

Announcements

- Todd Sprague announced that three candidates have been invited to campus to interview for the Director of Development position. Interviews will be held Tuesday February 23rd, Monday March 1st and Friday March 5th. Todd encouraged senior staff to attend the interview and provide feedback on the candidates.
- John Hurley announced to senior staff that there was a going away party for Allen Toothaker Thursday February 18th. The event was a success and many photos of the gathering are available to view.
- John Hurley announced that the Cooper Point Journal (CPJ) ran an article regarding the Public Records Officer.
- Art Costantino announced that Sarah Works was offered and accepted the position of Recreation and Athletics Director. She has a background as an attorney, philosophy instructor, and college athlete.
- Art Costantino announced that the new Speedy costume has arrived and a student will continue to take on the role of the college mascot.
- John Carmichael announced that it will soon be time to form a committee to discuss the new staff representative for the Board of Trustees. He will call a group together within the next month.

Legislative Update

The legislative session is more than half done, with only 10 days left. The house and senate budgets could be released as early as tomorrow. The tuition policy is still moving and Central Washington University has expressed an interest in joining the bill, as changed by a striking amendment to cap increases at 9%. Deb Wallace, whose committee will hear the bill in the House, has dropped out of the congressional race. A bill prohibiting salary increases, freezing hiring, and making other "early cuts" has passed. The "furlough" bill is not moving, but may be revived as part of the budget that is eventually passed. The bill that increases the number of exempt employees able to join a union has stalled.

Labor Relations

Laurel Uznanski and Sharon Storer will be attending a meeting to prepare for classified staff union negotiations. Eastern Washington University will be joining the table this year which adds a new element to negotiations. There will be a minimum of eight union negotiation meeting dates. The contract is due to the Governor's Office by October 1, 2010.

Decisions and Actions

- Provide input regarding contract changes you would like to see to Laurel U. within the next thirty days - March 24, 2010 (all).

HCC Occupation

The Housing Community Center (HCC) was under occupation by a group of individuals over the weekend. The group occupied the HCC Friday evening and announced they would leave on Sunday,

which they did. They stated that they would allow students into the area during the occupation. It was reported that some students not agreeing with the occupation attempted to take down the barricade and were unsuccessful. Many individuals were wearing masks. Both the masks and barricades caused apprehension. The store was closed by Sharon Goodman to avoid placing employees in an unsafe position. It was noted that at one point there were 50-60 individuals; approximately 12-13 stayed overnight. Administration offered to talk with the group, but they declined. There were many discussions on tesctalk and tescrier about the occupation. It was questioned whether or not all the individuals were students. Building occupations have occurred on other campuses, especially in California.

It is important to open communication about what the college has been doing with regard to the budget. It would be helpful to create dialog. There was a fire code/safety issue. It was noted that occupations can take on a different character at different places and times. Students identified will be put through the student conduct code process.

Decisions and Actions

- Art is getting a group together to address occupation issues. An individual from the communications department, Academics, FAD, Police Services, President's Office and Student Affairs should be appointed to the group to particpate. FAD and Academics to identify someone to participate. (John H., Don B./Ken T.)
- Compose and send message regarding the budget informing of the efforts of the college and communicating that we are concerned as well (Todd S., Steve T.).

Board of Trustees Meeting

John Carmichael distributed a document containing possible board meeting agenda items. The Board Meeting will be held March 8th at the Tacoma Campus and March 9th at the Olympia Campus. It is planned that the meeting in Tacoma will include a tour of the campus. The naming of the special effects lab will take place at the March meeting. The financial aid report will be postponed until May. The Board will be advised at the May meeting that the work session on International programs will not take place before the May meeting.

Other

Ken Tabbutt attended the reaccreditation meeting and reported back that the report is due next year, fall 2011. He noted that the strategic plan will need to be revisited in light of the new reaccreditation process. March 2nd Ron Baker will be on campus and attend the management meeting breakfast.