

Senior Staff Meeting
May 24, 2010
Meeting Notes

Attending: John Carmichael, Art Costantino, Susan Harris, Lee Hoemann, Steve Hunter, John Hurley, Nancy Murray, Les Purce, Todd Sprague, Ken Tabbutt, Steve Trotter, Laurel Uznanski
Absent: Julie Suchanek

Review of minutes

The minutes of the May 17, 2010 were not yet submitted for approval.

Announcements

- John H. announced a check for \$6000.00 was received from EnerNOC for energy conservation steps taken on campus.
- John H. announced that he and Todd S. will be meeting with a campus neighbor today. The neighbor, who lives near the Geoduck house wishes to express her concerns. Specific concerns have not been made clear as of yet.
- Art C. announced that a student demonstration is planned for tomorrow on red square. The subject of the demonstration is immigration reform.

Debrief Last Week

Synergy: Les attended Synergy for part of the day on Saturday. Les was the opening musical act for Dana Lyons. The event was described as a mini Super Saturday.

Senior Staff Retreat: Notes from the Senior Staff retreat are expected to be completed within the next day or two. The uncertainty that many are feeling because of the economy is taking its toll. The term “crisis” has been used often. It was suggested that coming together as a group to have fun and with humor might be helpful to some across campus.

Decisions and Actions

- Email Senior Staff Retreat Notes to Senior Staff when received from Dee Endelman (John C.).

Academic Calendar and Religious Holidays

The second day of New Student Orientation is scheduled on Yom Kippur this year. Art C. stated that after discussion, it was decided not to reschedule the orientation as the rescheduling would affect a much larger number of individuals. However, an attempt is being made to accommodate individuals who celebrate the holiday by offering the same information on the following Monday. Students and parents will be notified of this prior to the event.

A letter will be sent to faculty and students in advance of classes regarding reasonable accommodations for religious holidays throughout the year. It will include the responsibility of the student to provide notice to the faculty, and the faculty responsibility to reasonably accommodate the requests. Not privileging one religion over another is important. A general list of holidays would be helpful for faculty to help with planning. Nancy M. mentioned the University of Washington has list of religious holidays available online. John C. volunteered to draft a policy.

Decisions and Actions

- Draft a policy for Religious Holidays and the Academic Calendar, post on the policy webpage and provide a link to the policy on the academic calendar page (John C.).

COP Rotation

The Evergreen State College will be taking on the responsibility for COP this year. Mike Reilly, the Assistant Director of COP will be serving as Interim Executive Director for COP during the search for a

new Executive Director. Some key work this year includes: some Senior Staff will serve as the officers of the COP sub committees; and the Executive Director search.

Decisions and Actions

- Meet to discuss what the history has been with COP and identify what goals to strive for this year (Les P., Julie S., Ken T., John H., Laurel, Art C, John C. and Steve T.).

Year End Reports/Evaluations

Les P. asked the VPs to provide year end reports to him by the end of this week.

Decisions and Actions

- Provide year end reports (highlights) by the end of this week to Les P. (VPs).

Board of Trustee Meeting Material

The deadline for Board of Trustee material for the upcoming BOT meeting is June 1, 2010. It was suggested to add GSU election results to the BOT agenda. Biomass gasification may be a topic for public comment.

Decisions and Actions

- Provide material for the BOT June meeting by June 1, 2010 (All).

Biomass Gasification

Biomass plant information was presented at Synergy and Scott Morgan sent an email on tescrcrrier regarding biomass plants. The email outlined the differences between the proposed Shelton and Evergreen State College plants. This email sparked quite a bit of discussion on tesctalk. It was noted that someone will be visiting Peter Bohmer's program to discuss the Shelton biomass project. It would be good for a faculty member, staff and/or students involved with the Evergreen Biomass gasification plant to be present as well in the event there are questions regarding the Evergreen project. The biomass gasification plant Evergreen is proposing is similar to that of Middlebury College, a leading college in sustainability. It would be good to contact Middlebury to gain information on the type of reactions encountered with their biomass plant proposal and implementation.

Decisions and Actions

- Check in with Peter B. regarding upcoming visit to his program regarding biomass plants (Ken T.).
- Contact Middlebury College to gain information on the type of reactions encountered with their biomass plant proposal/implementation (Todd S.).