

**Senior Staff Meeting**  
**May 17, 2010**  
**Meeting Notes**

Attending: Eddy Brown, John Carmichael, Art Costantino, Susan Harris, Lee Hoemann, Steve Hunter,  
John Hurley, Todd Sprague, Julie Suchanek, Ken Tabbutt, Steve Trotter, Laurel Uznanski  
Absent: Les Purce  
Guest: Paul Przybylowicz

**Review of minutes**

The minutes of the May 10, 2010 meeting were approved.

**Announcements**

- John H. announced the Annual Report is complete. He indicated the report is available online and he has a few hardcopies available.
- Art C. announced there was a health related incident with a student over the weekend.

**Academic Calendar and Religious Holidays**

Senior Staff discussed concerns and complaints over the academic calendar and campus events occurring during religious holidays (i.e.; Freshman Advising Day on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur the first week of the quarter). Paul P. discussed the method in which the academic calendar is created. The start of the academic year is determined by counting back from Thanksgiving. There is some discussion within faculty about reducing the length of the Thanksgiving break, reducing the length of new student orientation and/or changing to a semester system. It was noted that the list of religious observances from all the world's religions is quite long. After discussion, Academics will check on what other Washington State colleges and universities are doing regarding this matter.

Decisions and Actions

- Check on what other Washington State colleges are doing about scheduling and religious holidays and report back to Senior Staff (Ken T.).

**Israel/Palestine Forum Proposal**

Ken discussed a proposal to sponsor a forum on the Israel-Palestine conflict. Some constituents proposed the forum from the belief that all viewpoints on Israel and Palestine are not adequately represented. Ken contacted faculty who teach or have an interest in Israel/Palestine issues to assess interest and availability for such a forum. While there is long-time interest in these issues, faculty are reluctant to commit to such an event. Events related to the Israel/Palestine issue should be done with support from faculty or student organizations. In the absence of such support, it was decided to not move forward with a forum on Israel/Palestine issues at this time.

Decisions and Actions

- Do not move forward with an Israel/Palestine Forum.

**Debrief Previous Week's Events**

BOT Meeting: John C. thanked all who attended the meeting. He noted that 17 people spoke during public comment. Comments from senior staff regarding the meeting included: Nalini's presentation was great – it was nice to have faculty and programs come forward; there wasn't a clear articulation of the tradeoffs for the college regarding summer tuition and the budget; and that there was still concern with the anger and lack of civility during public comment. It was noted that the board meeting has been set up as a place to go and be heard, not a time for conversation.

Other comments heard were that students do not believe the information on the budget is made readily available. It was noted that it is in the social contract that students have the responsibility to be informed.

The information is available for them through various avenues. Suggestions to help facilitate the dissemination of information: a kiosk in the CAB, the GSU Representative, the Student Trustee, and possibly a BOT forum prior to the Board meetings.

VP Retreat: The Vice Presidents reported on the VP retreat held May 13, 2010 at Saint Placid Priory. A mind map was created with the assistance of Dee Endelman, Facilitator. The group looked at accomplishments over the year and noted the list was impressive due to budget constraints. Dee Endelman will forward notes taken from the VP retreat and agenda for the upcoming Senior Staff retreat.

### **Senior Staff Retreat**

The Senior Staff retreat is scheduled for Friday, May 21, 2010 at the Washington State Capital Museum Coach House in Olympia. The retreat will be held from 9am-4pm. Please carpool if able as parking is limited and street parking has a three hour limit. Susan H. will email directions along with agenda and VP retreat notes.

### **Management Meeting on May 19**

John C. noted that the upcoming management meeting will be held on May 19, 2010. He will send an email reminder prior to the meeting with a copy of the Senior Staff goals. He asked for suggested agenda items. It was suggested to have the following agenda items: Senior Staff Goals, Review of Accomplishments, and Summer Work.

#### Decisions and Actions

- Add the following items to the upcoming management meeting agenda: Senior Staff Goals, Review of Accomplishments, and Summer Work (John C.).

### **Water Service to the Organic Farm**

John H. distributed a copy of the document titled "New Waterline for the Organic Farm". This document is a proposal from the CLUC to add a 10 inch waterline extending from the campus core to the organic farm. The work for this water service would take place over the summer.

#### Decisions and Actions

- Review the CLUC proposal for a new waterline for the organic farm and advise John H. or any concerns you may have (all).