

**Ferris State University
Deans' Council
Tuesday, May 15, 2007
8:30-9:30 a.m.**

Present: Kevin Alexander, Cheryl Cluchey, Richard Cochran, Don Flickinger, Ellen Haneline, Michelle Johnston, Pat Klarecki, Matt Klein, Ian Mathison, Dave Nicol, Tom Oldfield, Bill Potter

Absent: Robbie Teahen

Guest: David Pilgrim

Tom Oldfield opened the meeting with some announcements.

Mindy Britton is moving to Charter Schools, replacing Esther Simpson who is retiring.

Don Flickinger has joined the Office for Academic Affairs as the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. Robbie Teahen has been appointed the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. Pat Klarecki has agreed to stay until June 30, 2007 to assist with the transition in the office.

Tom stated that if a dean is not able to attend a Deans' Council meeting, they are invited to send a replacement.

Tom Oldfield reminded the deans to send him their list of top five priorities for the next year.

The deans discussed their planning priorities for the coming year.

Matt Klein stated that an immediate concern is whether or not new students will be allowed to register for online courses. This needs to be decided prior to new student registration.

Dave Nicol asked if they can charge a different rate for online classes to better reflect the additional costs to the university. This will be a topic of discussion in future meetings.

Tom Oldfield then asked the deans to review their vacant positions.

David Pilgrim gave a presentation to the Deans' Council on the evolving University Diversity Plan. He reviewed the committee membership of the Diversity Committee and the Diversity web page.

Tom Oldfield outlined how he envisions the Deans' Council role with the Diversity Office. He sees this is group as the primary group to disseminate information to the colleges. He asked the deans to let him know if they see this working differently. David Pilgrim is looking at diversity at other universities that are located in rural communities.

Tom Oldfield asked the deans how often they would like to meet. He suggested the deans meet with the President and Vice Presidents once/month, the deans could then meet as a group twice a month. The option of Deans' Council focus groups on specific topics was discussed. He asked for input back from the deans on what they would like to see.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.