

**Ferris State University  
Dean's Council  
Tuesday, September 09, 2003**

**MINUTES**

Present: Tom Oldfield, Dave Nicol, Chuck Matrosic, Ian Mathison, Richard Cochran, Laurie Chesley, Michelle Johnston, Bill Potter, Jacque Hooper, Matt Klein, Robbie Teahen, Kevin Alexander, Don Green

Special Guest: President Dave Eisler

Handouts: Agenda  
Draft Planning Discussion Summary

**1. Discussion on Planning Process – President Eisler**

President Eisler thanked the deans for their various comments on the planning process. He distributed a Planning Discussion Summary Draft and asked deans to review and send their comments to him by the end of this week. He also requested that the document not be shared other staff at this point.

President Eisler also discussed the Vice President for Academic Affairs search and noted that Jim Appleberry has been hired as the search consultant. The President gave an overview of the search schedule, as well as the possible make-up of the search committee.

**2. Discussion on Planning and Academic Plan**

Tom Oldfield asked the deans to develop a prioritized list of new positions needed in their college, including rationale. Deans should also include vacant positions that have not been approved to fill. The prioritized list is due October 6. He noted that he will be using data on part-time and temporary faculty to determine needs.

Tom also noted that new equipment requests will be handled in the same manner as in the past.

Deans' Council members then reviewed the goals outlined in the Academic Plan and extensive discussion followed:

- Bolster existing strong programs
- Need to be willing to add/subtract programs
- Need to be more holistic with programming/work as teams
- Become more efficient with programs such as in section management
- Reallocate resources?
- Can't continue to grow without parameters because of impact on additional staffing, resources, classrooms, etc.
- Increase enrollment - target programs on campus; assoc. degrees off-campus.

- Don't have a clear picture of program costs; also need to use additional tuition dollars to feed those programs that are bringing in more students.
- Why do we want to grow and how much?

The deans concurred in focusing on University Strategic Direction #3:

**Foster highly responsive academic opportunities that address student and employer needs and compete successfully with other public and for-profit universities.**

Tom Oldfield and Laurie Chesley will develop several bulleted items based on the discussion and forward it to Deans' Council members for their review.

Jacque Hooper and Michelle Johnston will look at other college and university models for funding and report back to Deans' Council.

### **3. Other**

Don Green noted that he has been discussing summer camps for high schoolers with Dan Burcham. Since this topic can have impact on the colleges, he will be suggesting this as a future Deans' Council agenda item.

Richard Cochran noted the SCT presentations scheduled for September 18 in BUS 111 and encouraged everyone to attend.

REMINDER – please forward your FYI items to Mindy by noon on Mondays. She will then send an informational email to all Deans' Council members.