

**Ferris State University
Academic Senate Retreat
Cranhill Ranch**

**August 21, 2012
8:30 – 3:10 p.m.**

1.	President Doug Haneline convened the meeting at 8:40 a.m. (Since this meeting is not an action meeting, attendance is not recorded.)
2.	President Haneline welcomed the Senators and noted that he hoped this year that the Senate will continue to be a consultative body which had great similarities to constitutional monarchies like Great Britain.
3.	<p>President Haneline recognized Provost Fritz Erickson who welcomed Senators and guests. He addressed several topics and gave his five priorities for the upcoming year.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Orienting and mentoring new deans. 2. Focus on partnerships. 3. Help students be more successful with a focus on student debt. 4. Focusing efforts on the College of Engineering Technology. 5. Implementing the Center for Latino Studies (Diversity initiative).
4.	<p>President Haneline recognized President Eisler. President Eisler congratulated the Senate on its strong attention to curriculum and other campus issues. He mentioned several issues on campus and off which were his focus for the semester.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Ferris received approximately a 4.5% in performance metrics funding (approximately 1.2 million) but it cannot be added to base. B. He continues to work against the community college baccalaureate bill. C. He opposes the tax initiative ballot which he feels will constrain state funding. D. This year the university will continue to work toward a University Center renovation. E. Continue to work on infrastructure projects. <p>Senator Schmidt asked about the new policy of dropping for non-payment. Vice-President Burcham said the policy was to help students. Comments were made by Senator Hanna about how graduation rates are not reflective of associate degrees and perhaps Ferris should also generate alternate statistics. Senator Thapa commented on campus inefficiency and suggested that it be looked at.</p>
5.	<p>President Haneline recognized Fred Heck, member of the General Education Task Force. Fred Heck gave an update on the General Education website and the task force and its activities to date. In the packets were the approved outcomes, revised outcomes with criteria and the faculty surveys which were filled out in April 2012. A workshop will be held on Thursday to review these same topics with other faculty. The committee now needs to determine how to map this into an assessable experience. Revised outcomes will be returning to the Senate for a vote in October 2012.</p> <p>Senators had several comments including: concern about how to turn this into a structure, the number of outcomes and how to make these outcomes measurable.</p>
6.	President Haneline recognized General Counsel Miles Postema. General Counsel Miles Postema gave a brief overview of his office's responsibilities and a presentation on FOIA (Freedom of Information Act). All FOIA requests need to be given to McKessy House as soon as they arrive and the time it takes to fill a FOIA varies depending on circumstances. Hours spent by staff are billable to the requester. There were some questions about when faculty need a release for a reference. Also a question about what to release for a security check.

7.	President Haneline recognized Senator Sandy Alspach (and UCC chair) to present on the new UCC manual. While the policies were approved by the Senate last year, all the forms and procedures were still be in added. She gave a discussion of a process- when to do the pcaf, consultation forms, etc. A further workshop will be held on Thursday.
8	President Haneline recognized Vice-President Berghoef to discuss the committees. Berghoef encouraged members to apply and to encourage other in the colleges. There are over 100 vacant seats. Applications will be emailed to newer faculty. Senators asked questions about the designated meeting time and resignation procedures for committee members.
9.	The retreat adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Melinda Isler
Secretary