

TO: Staff Senate  
FROM: Pauline Palko  
DATE: May 5, 2016  
SUBJECT: Minutes of April 13, 2016

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In attendance: Ms. Barrett Notarianni, Ms. Klien, Ms. Mecadon, Ms. Palko, Ms. Tucker, Ms. Cali, Ms. Tokash, Ms. Barnoski, Mr. Barrett, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Hallock, Mr. Roginski, Mr. Sakowski, Ms. Shimsky, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Bevacqua, Ms. Butler, Ms. Densvich Sheils, Ms. Driscoll McNulty, Ms. Grissinger, Ms. Hollingshead, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Krzan, Mr. Murphy, Ms. Strickland, Mr. Wetherell.

Ms. Tetreault, Liaison

Not in attendance: Ms. Schofield, Mr. Griguts, Mr. Wasilinko, Ms. Cook, Mr. Pilger, Ms. Kovalcin, Mr. Sheehan.

**Guests:** Katherine Yerkes, Dr. Patricia Harrington, Dr. Joseph Dreisbach, Dr. Anitra McShea, Dean Mensah, Pat Donohue, Kyle Thomas, Nicholas Corcune Jr., Thomas Coleman, Dale Martin.

**Welcome:**

Mr. Wetherell called the meeting to order at 10:07 am, in the PNC Bank Board Room, Brennan Hall. Mr. Roginski offered the opening prayer. Ms. Cali will offer the prayer for the Februar[Ca]-hor the Febrer<0078>Tj /TT1 1 T. t Mr. n Hd6 (al)6c(s)-e ws(o

**Review of November meeting minutes:**

Minutes approved with no changes.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Agenda approved with no changes.

**Strategic Plan Update**

Dr. Harrington opened the update here from their very first visit. hey felt they belonged

The Strategic plan is the process by which we look at what we do, and do well, and make it better. To put the aspects of the plan into meaningful context, the goal of the plan is to improve what we do, and implement what is important to students and

parents. In each area we are not starting from scratch, we are looking at what we do well and what is needed for our students. What students are looking for changes over time. The University has to change so that we can keep bringing students here and providing the best learning environment for our students.

As we all know the Strategic Plan has three main themes, Engaged, Integrated, and Global. The main theme of Engaged is service; providing opportunity for students to serve and be with others locally in our own community and in communities around the world. The main theme of Integrated is internships and career preparation and is very important to students and their parents. Various departments and the Career Development Center are working together to pull the ideas together to offer one message and attractive internships across majors. The theme of Global is providing opportunities for our students to have experiences on and off campus, service trips, study abroad, etc. Staff often goes on service trips and that is wonderful! The students know staff and feel comfortable with staff. They appreciate having someone they are familiar with along to share those experiences with them. The University appreciates staff involvement with our students. It's one of the many ways staff contribute to making The University a great place for our students.

Kate Yerkes added that this

student experience, the areas that don't have a number or quantity attached to them. Everyone has a role to play; if you are unsure of your role ask your supervisor or your VP.

Pat Donahue, (sitting in in place of Ed Steinmetz) offered that Ed is on the agenda for the May senate meeting and will present a more complete report of the Comprehensive Resource Review (CRR) process, a compliment to this initiative, and The University's way of reviewing the financial health of the institution and making efforts to solidify our future. Our goal is 8-13 million dollars and we've already got up to 4.2 million dollars of savings which has really helped to balance this year's operating budget. Work of this nature is to open funding for some of these key initiatives in the strategic plan.

Expressing concerns that projects would take off and then be dropped for lack of funding, Mr. Wetherell asked if any item(s) has been approved for the next year and if it has, is the funding for it earmarked in the next budget year to be able to accomplish it? Mr. Donahue answered that there is \$200,000 as a placeholder for strategic funding. Right now there is nothing in the budget except that \$200,000 placeholder, but he was not aware of any immediate initiatives that

there for language and cultural training for six-months to a year. The University can send students there in the summer and in six-weeks they can take 9 credits in language where they spend four hours every day, five days a week with one teacher and one other student, they meet the students where they are in language learning and take them to the next level. After a morning of language instruction, another faculty member teaches Religions of the World. Students can have an intensive experience and end up with a total of 12 credits. The whole staff is very kind and very excited at the prospect of our students attending. Creighton has sent students there in the past. There is a strong possibility that students, especially those in a health profession are very likely to have Spanish speaking patients in the future, but because of the density of their course schedules, don't have time to fit those language courses into their regular academic schedules. The University is very hopeful that this will be attractive to those students and other students as well. There are also cultural and service experiences that students can be involved in while there. One under consideration is with a still-functioning Jesuit Mission about a six-hour ride from the language center. This would connect our students to the Jesuit story in South America, a tremendous opportunity and very affordable for students.

Dean Mensah shared that his college is still working through the process of finding a new location for the college.

Chief Information Officer: position has been posted nationally.

Associate VP Facilities Operations: posted nationally, but hopeful for a relatively local candidate.

Director of Facilities: position still vacant, will

Motion was made to support the Student Senate resolution dated October 23, 2015,

#### Comments from senators:

All new staff is trained on their first day of employment so departments with frequent turnover are not really an issue, as long as everyone has it at least once.

Everyone has to be aware of their surroundings. We move all over campus every day to attend meetings, presentations and events so training that is building specific might not be as helpful as one might think.

If someone misses they can attend another scheduled session.

The phrase *Preparedness Training over Awareness Training* expresses a stronger level of training. Is there any legal implications of stating it either way?

Ms. Butler volunteered to contact Chief Bergmann (UPD) to see how training is going and report to Ms. Tetreault.

Discussion will continue at May meeting after more information has been collected.

#### **Items from the Floor**

Mr. Wetherell thanked senators for encouraging staff to run for senate positions and to vote. We had full slates and improved voter turnout across all constituencies.

Motion to adjourn and second at 11:17 am.