

## **ADMINISTRATORS' COUNCIL MEETING -- MARCH 9, 2017**

The Administrators' Council meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Tamara Livingston, at 3pm in Kennesaw Hall 1203 on the Kennesaw campus.

**Present:** Rai Sookram, Teresa Johnston, Tamara Livingston, Veronica Trammel, Karen Carlisle, Iyonka Strawn-Valcy, Jeremy Johnson, Kathy Alday, Maureen Patton, Gary Bush, Scott Whitlock, Marty Elliott, Jim Cope, and Michael Lindsay II.

### **Welcome and order of business**

#### **Guest Speaker: Dr. Ken Harmon, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs**

Dr. Ken Harmon was today's guest speaker. He stated that he comes from a business background and understands the importance of governance, which is good practice. People should have a voice in what affects them. Voice is important, and is the essence of shared governance. Every group is a governing body. Regarding the Admin Council, Dr. Harmon stated that he believes that administrators represent a different type of constituency, and that the issues we manage are quite different from those of faculty and staff. Tamara gave some background about the past Admin Senate group, stating that she thinks the value of the Admin group is that we communicate about issues and interface with other bodies as needed. Regarding academics, Dr. Harmon asserts that KSU needs more faculty members, and that we need to do a better job of helping students finish. He asked for 55 faculty lines this year, remarking that 10-12 in a year is a good request! One of our biggest challenges is space. KSU will be able to cap enrollment with the new fixed seat model. Marty Elliott remarked that this new model is a concern for those areas that rely solely on student fees to operate. 40% of budget comes from state, with the rest from tuition and enrollment. Kim West's team in Enrollment Services is working on the model. It will allow us to be more selective, but it will also impact funding. Some discussion has occurred at the USG about completely eliminating fees. Compared to other institutions in the SREB, KSU is cheap! Summer fees are often more than tuition. Textbooks are expensive. The cost of education is just too much. Rai commented that they have eliminated \$1million last year, and they are questioning fees this year. E-tuition is now \$125/hour for online course, which has generated a lot of money, but it's not considered a fee. Dr. Harmon remarked that we should probably cut online tuition before the state cuts it. Elke suggested a 20% cut. All in all, per Dr. Harmon, KSU is efficient. As he put it, KSU is "the most efficient on the planet!"

### **Q&A**

Iyonka stated that the global learning fee funds \$1000 minimum to \$1500 maximum per student who participates in the study abroad program. This fee has helped tremendously. Iyonka asked Dr. Harmon if he thought that fee might be eliminated, but he said he'd not heard anything. He did suggest that it might be good to raise funds for that purpose if necessary since global travel is a life-changer!

Marty asked if there was any way to show that our students have a voice in the fees and actually decide whether or not fees will be instituted. Dr. Harmon said yes, and those legislators want to be accountable to their voters. Tension has existed between legislators and the BOR for years. KSU does what it can to create good relationships with legislators (having a session with them during the legislative session is a very good thing).

Tamara stated that the consensus seems to be that KSU is in a state of instability and that it's good that Dr. Harmon decided to stay. She asked if he could speak to where KSU is now in light of last year's difficulties. Dr. Harmon said that the nature of how the situation was presented was much worse than reality. He said he's been having conversations with influential individuals who say they're seeing good things at KSU, despite everything. The system office has calmed down about KSU, and Dr. Harmon said, "We're okay."

Maureen asked if Dr. Harmon if he thought it would ever be possible to hold Commencement ceremonies at the Stadium. The major issue, per Dr. Harmon, is finding an appropriate back-up location.

Dr. Harmon reiterated to us that his door is always open, and thanked us for what we do!

## **Council Business**

### ***Minutes***

The minutes from both the January and February meetings were approved.

### ***Council Representative Reports***

#### ***Presidential Transition***

Teresa Johnston reported that the second meeting of the Presidential Transition team was held at which they discussed the various topics of the subgroups. They discussed what each group was doing. The next meeting will be held on 3/17/17. Teresa will send a document to us that includes all the topic areas.

#### ***Staff Senate***

Veronica Trammell reported on the KSU Day at the Capitol, which went well. Staff is also concerned about the implementation of a tiered parking system. Auxiliary Services has extended dining hours. The spring football scrimmage will be held on 3/24/17. The Campus Carry bill is still part of the legislative session. She encouraged everyone to join the "Under the Gold Dome" listserv.

#### ***Policy Process Council***

Tamara reported that the group has resumed meeting. Andrew Newton is serving as the interim chair. Items that are under review and discussion:

- Restroom access: gender inclusive restrooms will be part of new construction.
- Vehicle use and required driving training...seeking clarification.
- New contracts office? Per Rai, a new employee will be starting on 3/27/17. All contracts will go through this office and contracts will live there.
- The new Minors on Campus policy goes live on 5/1/17. A Program Manager will be hired to oversee the program.
- Discussion about KSU handbook.

#### ***Parking and Transportation***

Kathy Alday reported that there is still no word about when parking charges for staff and faculty at the Marietta campus will go into effect. Beginning 7/1/17, Parking Operations will be "in-house" and managed through Auxiliary Services. The discussion regarding tiered parking has been tabled indefinitely.

#### ***PPBAC***

Rai stated that the old PPBAC was replaced with a smaller group that Interim President Davis formed when he was here. President Olens will be keeping that smaller committee.

### **Council Roundtable/Information Sharing**

Tamara reported that the newly formed Information Governance Committee consists of herself, Marielle Fox, Stephen Gay, and Jeff Milsteen. The goal of this committee is to figure out how KSU should manage all its information. Tamara asked us to think about "pain points" regarding information and let her know what those are. Teresa remarked that employees aren't really trained in records management. Gary commented that student records are challenging and we have to keep all those (financial aid, registrar, etc.). Currently, Archives is keeping some registrar records. There's a lot that needs to be done!

### **Announcements**

Mr. Kim West will be the guest speaker at our 4/13/17 meeting. Elections for new officers will be held in May.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine E. Alday, Secretary