



## **PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

July 13, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

MA 319 and Zoom

### **PRESENT:**

Dr. Brad Mortensen, President

Ms. Adrienne Andrews, Vice President of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Dr. Ravi Krovi, Provost

Dr. Betsy Mennell, Vice President for University Advancement

Dr. Brett Perozzi, Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Norm Tarbox, Vice President for Administrative Affairs

Ms. Aubrey Jenkins Lord, Staff Advisory Council Chair – Administrative Assoc./Provost's Office

Ms. Stephanie Hollist, General Counsel

Ms. Sherri Cox, Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary

### **ZOOM ATTENDEES:**

Mr. Jason Francis, Faculty Senate Chair – Associate Professor/Health Sciences Librarian

Mr. David Fernelius, Director, Infrastructure Services

### **EXCUSED:**

Dr. Bret Ellis, Vice President for Information Technology

Mr. Steven Richardson, Director of Strategic Initiatives

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by President Mortensen, who welcomed all in attendance and acknowledged Aubrey Jenkins Lord as the SAC Chair and Stephanie Hollist as General Counsel serving for the first time in their new roles. He also welcomed David Fernelius, who filled in for vice president Bret Ellis, who was excused.

**Meeting Minutes Approval (June 1, 2022):**

Meeting minutes from June 1, 2022, were reviewed and discussed. Stephanie Hollist would like to suggest revisions to portions of the Information Technology report given by Bret Ellis.

*Approval:* Meeting minutes were approved pending the amendments which will be completed once Stephanie and Bret connect.

**PA Program Seat Deposit:**

Provost Ravi Krovi discussed the PA Program Seat Deposit. Discussion included the amount of money holding students' spots, adding a description of what fees cover rather than just guaranteeing students' attendance, and where funds go when forfeited if students do not attend. It was determined that forfeited funds will go centrally to the general fund at the university rather than to the PA program. The PA program requires 20 students to function. The fees to hold spots encourages students' commitment to attend.

*Approval:* The PA Program Seat Deposit was approved without changes.

**TheDream.US Program:**

President Mortensen discussed the TheDream.US program funded to provide DACA students that qualify for Pell Grant assistance or other forms of aid to help them with Real Projects and pursue their education. The goal is to have a graduation rate of 75%. The organization is partnered with the U of U and currently seeking an additional Utah partner. Meetings have taken place with Candy Marshall, CEO. She would like to get Weber State signed up soon and have students involved this fall. A recommended point of contact is the new Executive Director of Hispanic Serving Institutions. Progress is being made on an MOU with the intent of having signatures completed by or before the August 4 meeting with Ally Bank who is meeting with WSU for a collaborative meeting.

**August 4 Ally Bank Visit:**

President Mortensen talked about a collaborative meeting with Ally Bank scheduled on August 4 to discuss WSU's progress as a Hispanic Serving Institution.

**Town Hall Preparations:**

President Mortensen discussed the Town Hall scheduled for July 14. A spreadsheet with questions has been shared with President's Council to review prior to the meeting. Invitations will be sent to Aubrey Lord and Jason Francis to participate.

**Board of Trustees Planning Retreat Orientation Meeting:**

President Mortensen discussed the Aug. 10 Board of Trustees Planning Retreat Orientation Meeting agenda. The following items were recommended to include:

1. Strategic plan progress listed on the template through the past year to reach our goals to share. Vice presidents are to turn in their reports to Steven by July 15. A revised version with date consistencies is needed.
2. Ask co-chairs to report at the meeting on their assigned areas. Redlined and clean versions of the plan will need to be shown.
3. Board of Trustees email accounts presentation by Bret Ellis (FY23 meeting schedule, committee and college liaison assignments were approved in the May meeting.)
4. Upcoming topics for the year. A Google doc will be shared with vice presidents to list their suggested subject matter.
5. New retirement program introduced to the Trustees.
6. USHE items from the recent Trustee Training Meeting may be Included.
7. Amendments to Trustees' bylaws.
8. Adding Committee Relations as a standing committee.

**Other:**

The following other items were discussed:

1. Norm Tarbox gave updates on construction projects at the university:
  - a. Construction on the OGX line is going well. The bus system is scheduled to be operating on the first day of school. Not all finishing touches and landscapes will be complete at that time. Transporting of students is on schedule and will happen. More paving of surrounding roads is underway.
  - b. The Noorda building project will be ready to open for classes this fall. Material and windows issues are being addressed and temporary solutions are being implemented until permanent solutions are in place by Big D Construction.
    - i. Engineering Tech and IT personnel are scheduled to

move to the building in October and November.

- c. Remodeling of the IPE building is taking place and going great.
  - d. The new roundabout north of the stadium is moving forward after some materials delays.
  - e. The new parking lot by Birch and Edvalson is underway. Two annexes on Birch will remain.
  - f. Signage on Harrison Boulevard is starting.
  - g. New xeriscaping will be going in along OGX routes.
2. Brett Perozzi indicated that the resident halls are full at this time, which is good news.
  3. Vice presidents can share their out-of-office notifications on Brad's calendar but need to make sure these don't block out Brad's calendar.
  4. Aubrey Lord discussed the SAC committees which are now full and fully staffed and leadership is in place for next year.
  5. Jason Francis discussed that Patti Glover will be moving to the Goddard School of Business as a director of graduate admissions for the accounting program. A new hire process will take place to fill her vacancy this fall.
  6. The Lindquist Pops Concert logistics were discussed for parking and campus access to the event. It is confirmed that fireworks will be done.
  7. The Campus Picnic will be held Tuesday, July 19 in the covered parking area. RSVPs can be accessed through announcements.
  8. Norm Tarbox discussed that enrollment is down about 3% at this time. If we have a 2% enrollment decline for the year, it will roll into FY24. There is no HEERF money left to cover this and budget cuts will be necessary. VSIPs will continue to be offered. Discussion about funding and donor options was discussed.
  9. President Mortensen discussed a request by the commissioner for him to organize a response from USHE institution presidents concerning their online task force proposal rejection. The presidents have until Aug. 31 to draft a response to the Board. Brad is meeting with the institutions' presidents at the USHE Board Meeting on July 14 to discuss this.
  10. Colten Simons from UVU has been hired to serve as Executive Director of High School Dual Enrollment starting July 14. James Hedges, Dean of Online & Continuing Education starts July 18. Candidate interviews for the Executive Director of Hispanic Serving Institution Initiatives position are finished and a candidate search is near completion as offers and counteroffers are taking place. A

candidate for the Executive Director for Equity and Access in Student Affairs is being hired as well.

**Upcoming Events:**

The Lindquist Pops Concert is listed incorrectly on the events for July 17 and 18. The event is on July 17 only and needs correction.

**Adjourn:**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.