

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT'S CABINET

November 22, 2011

Members present: Dr. Ed Brewster, Mr. Keaton Bradley, Ms. Laurie Clary, Mr. Dave Halverstadt, Ms. Jeanette Green, Ms. Sandy Lloyd, Ms. Nellie Miller, Ms. Julie Nelson, Mr. Tony Simone, Mr. Greg Taylor, Dr. Arlene Torgerson, Ms. Gail Winkelman

Absent: Ms. Barbara McCullough, Dr. Gary Murrell

Others Present: Ms. Sandy Zelasko

I. Student Issues and Concerns (Mr. Keaton Bradley, Mr. Greg Taylor)

Mr. Taylor reported on the following student activities:

He has received positive feedback about the teach-in event held on campus.

On November 28 he and other students will attend a rally at the capital in Olympia. The chair of the House Education Committee, Rep. Seaquist, has committed to meet with students on campus. Mr. Taylor will inform the campus community when the Representative will be here.

In an effort to strengthen bonds between the community and college, students volunteered to hang Christmas lights in downtown Aberdeen, and, in the spring they will volunteer with the Aberdeen Parks Department to build a bridge.

II. Faculty Issues and Concerns (Ms. Julie Nelson)

Ms. Nelson stated faculty appreciate that Dr. Brewster has called a faculty meeting to address their concerns regarding impending budget cuts.

III. Classified Staff Issues and Concerns (Ms. Jeanette Green, Ms. Nellie Miller, Ms. Gail Winkelman)

Ms. Miller reported the Staff Development and Training Committee will be bringing holiday treats to all campus offices on December 9th. Donations will be accepted.

Nominations for the quarterly classified staff award will be accepted until December 14th. The quarterly staff potluck will be on December 21st.

Ms. Miller thanked Ms. Clary for volunteering to advise the Staff Development and Training Committee.

Beginning in January, Ms. Miller will become past president of the Staff Development Committee and Ms. Janet Parker will become president. Mr. Phil Darrin will be vice president.

- IV. Vice President for Instruction (Ms. Laurie Clary)
Ms. Clary reported the Legislature will be requiring more data about prior learning assessment and making transfer information more visible.
- V. Vice President for Student Services (Dr. Arlene Torgerson)
Dr. Torgerson reported the Board of Trustees approved a \$10.00 fee for students taking the CPT test. It will become effective for students taking the test for Spring Quarter. Testing costs currently are about \$13,500 a year. It is hoped the fee will cover that cost.
- VI. Vice President for Administrative Services (Ms. Barbara McCullough)
Ms. McCullough was not in attendance.
- VII. Chief, Information Technology (Ms. Sandy Lloyd)
Ms. Lloyd reported she is in the process of creating choker e-mail accounts for all GHC students. When the project is completed, all information for students will be e-mailed to those accounts.

The IT department is working on a print management tool. After determining the average printer use for students, each student will be given that amount. If that amount is exceeded, the student will be charged per page. Students will be alerted of this change by choker mail. It will be implemented the first day of Winter Quarter. Dr. Brewster encouraged that we be as flexible as possible early in the process while details are being finalized.
- VIII. Chief, Human Resources (Mr. Dave Halverstadt)
Mr. Halverstadt reminded everyone that the last day of November is the final day for open enrollment when employees can make changes to their health plan.
- IX. Chief, Campus Operations, Safety and Security (Mr. Tony Simone)
Mr. Simone reported that every two years community and technical colleges complete a facilities condition survey. We are in the process of identifying projects that need repair, i.e., roofs, HVAC, sidewalks, etc. A consultant will be on campus to review our requests and report findings to the State Board. There are specific criteria to be eligible for funding. Mr. Simone emphasized funds are for repairs not remodeling.
- X. President (Dr. Ed Brewster)
The revenue projection that came out in September was \$1.3B short of the revenue projection for the biennium. At that time the Governor announced “preferred alternatives” to address the shortage. The November projection showed that revenue was not as good as expected and that the state is another \$122M short. The projection for case load cuts was about \$100M less than expected which balanced out the additional shortfall.

The Governor has now revealed her proposed budget. It includes a 13% cut for community and technical colleges, 15% for regional universities and 17% for research universities. The special session of the legislature begins the end of November. They need to cut \$2B for the biennium.

The Governor is proposing a ½ cent sales tax which would generate approximately \$500M which would buy back some of the cuts proposed in her budget, including education. The tax increase would have to be approved by the legislature first and then would go to a vote of the public, probably in March.

We have begun our budget planning process. We need to plan for whatever cuts we receive from the legislature. A cut of between 15% and 30% is expected for higher ed. We have already reduced our budget this year by \$200,000 through savings in positions that haven't been filled and proposed furlough days. We will offer an incentive plan for employees who want to retire or resign. In order to qualify for the incentive, the employee's position has to be one that will not be refilled.

Three community forums were held (Aberdeen, Raymond and Ilwaco) for the purpose of several state agencies having an opportunity to explain to community members the impact of proposed budget cuts. Students also held a teach-in on campus for the same purpose. Ms. Winkelman asked about the response from attendees at the forums. Dr. Brewster responded he felt the forums were very worthwhile and attendees asked good questions.