President’s Council

Meeting notice: Wednesday, Feb 11, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.
Location: Activity Center Conference Room

Attendees:
Tony Fernández, President tfernandez@lcsc.edu
Lori Stinson, Provost, lstinson@lcsc.edu
Andy Hanson, Vice President for Student Affairs ahanson@lcsc.edu
Carry Salonen, President’s Management Assistant cmsalonen@lcsc.edu
Mary Flores, Dean for Academic Programs mflores@lcsc.edu
Rob Lohrmeyer, Dean for Professional-Technical Programs rlohrmey@lcsc.edu
Kathy Martin, Dean for Community Programs and Governmental Relations kmartin@lcsc.edu
Chet Herbst, Vice President for Finance and Administration cgherbst@lcsc.edu
Sue Hasbrouck, Budget Director nhasbrouck@lcsc.edu
Allen Schmoock, Chief Technology Officer atschmoock@lcsc.edu
Greg Meyer, Director of College Communications gameyer@lcsc.edu
Gary Picone, Athletic Director gapicone@lcsc.edu
Alex Bezzerides, Faculty Senate Chair albeizzerides@lcsc.edu
Jessica Schumacher, Professional Staff Organization Chair jeschumacher@lcsc.edu
Amanda Gill, Classified Staff Organization Chair awgill@lcsc.edu
Erika Allen, Director of College Advancement eallen@lcsc.edu

1. Welcome guest

2. Updates

Education Week is the week that all higher education institutions make their presentations before the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee. LCSC had a very good Education Week due to the good relations we have with the state government and with the large group of LC people that were available to meet with legislators, State Board of Education members, and LCSC supporters prior to our testimony.

At the State Board of Education meeting in Moscow on April 15, LC will be presenting to the Board our request for tuition and fees for the upcoming year. Estimates have been sent to the Board and if we are to meet the 1.5 % fee increase portion and 3% budget increase goes through, we will need to raise revenues to cover the increase by growing our enrollment or raising tuition to meeting the school’s portion of the Governor’s suggested budget. LC’s initial budget request showed willingness to affirm that we would have held tuition with no increase had they been willing to do the funding shift. The fund shift would have been the portion of fees that would be required to fully cover the CEC for our general education salaried employees as well as the applicable employee benefit costs which has gone up $650.00 per employee. That was not to be. The State Board is trying to come up with fair and reasonable tuition increases
for institutions. LC is purposing the lowest tuition increase of any institution. We are trying to keep the increase at 1.7% for tuition and student fees which would result in a 2% increase in the matriculation portion of tuition or $6K a year. We are proposing an increase of about 4.6% to bring non-resident tuition up to about $11K. On Thursday, there will be a meeting with ASLCSC to discuss the proposed increases. We are not, at this time, suggesting changes in student activity fees. If the proposed tuition and fee increase takes place, it would mean about $100 a year for students. These are razor thin margins and dependent on how many students we enroll in the fall.

Students may enroll at LC through two avenues. Students who have minimal transfer credits or are direct out of high school are considered a category one and would enroll through Central Advising. Students who are transfer students that have a significant amount of credits are considered a category two and would enroll directly with divisions. We have 677 category one students compared to last year at 526. There are 40 new resident hall applications compared to last year at 22. The March 1 priority deadline is a time frame used to judge enrollments for the next year as those people are more serious about enrolling at LCSC. A campaign to promote the March 1st deadline will be in every major newspaper across the state. We are trying to educate people about LCSC and encouraging people to take advantage of scholarship programs. The agreement with College of Western Idaho will help grow our numbers and provide good press for LCSC. We are already getting applications because of our transfer scholarships provided by the Foundation.

A handout was provided to Council members that followed up on the Spring All Campus Meeting exercise were the attendees were asked what they felt differentiated LCSC from other institutions that could be used to recruit students. It was suggested that a student survey be conducted to get a complete picture. Discussion took place within the group about creating awareness of LC, low student debt at graduation, the high quality of education, advanced education placement rates, job placement rates, review of existing academic programs, expanding sporting programs, expanding student clubs to include sports, what private institutions are doing to recruit students, and lessons from other institutions that have grown enrollment by more than 50%. Council members were charged with identifying five things that LCSC could do better that demonstrates we care more and emailing the information to Dr. Andy Hanson.

The State Board of Education meeting is next week. Issues coming up will be PTE funding, the second reading of the operating agreement with the Foundation, athletic reports, the financial health of all the institutions including asset or reserves and financial ratios, personnel changes, and the second reading of the transfer and general education policies. Information on Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act, will be provided during the meeting to assist with Board policy creation. A work session with provosts and financial VP’s will occur prior to the meeting.

A table top emergency training session will occur Friday at 9:00 am in the ACC. There will be a test alert to only those on the emergency response support group and the executive group. Lewiston police and fire will be on hand.

3. Other

Erika Allen was introduced to the Council as the new College Advancement Director.
Greg Meyer announced that this meeting will be his last meeting as he will be leaving LC. He was wished well by the group.

The Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities visited our campus in October of 2014, and was pleased with the mid-cycle report but they were not convinced that we had met recommendation one on mission fulfillment from the year one report. We have been asked to submit a peer evaluation report and an ad hoc report without a visit by October 15, 2015. They were very satisfied with recommendations two and three. There is a presidential guidance committee on accreditation that will assist with this process.

4. Next meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Activity Center Conference Room.

5. Adjournment