

## Staff Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2012

1:00 p.m.

Student Center 104

Members Present: Tami Thibodeau, Tadd Martin, Liz Shanahan, Susan Chamberlin, Marsha Schlautman, Heather Smith, Colby Bradfield, Kristie Denne, Erin Schnell-Gaines, Sandra Leighton, James Dorsey, LeeAnn Crist, Terry Begley, Eddy Butkus, Laurie Bier, Sharalyn Steenson, Shayla O'Brien, Liz Flaherty

Member absent: Jennifer Larsen

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm. Sue offered a reflection.

### 1. Approval of minutes:

The minutes of the January meeting were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. All were in favor.

### 2. Old Business:

Statistics for participation in CU Alert were reviewed and we will continue to ask people to register.

### 3. New Business:

Tami reported the updates of the last two meetings of the President's Advisory Board.

December meeting: A voting precinct has been approved for campus and will be located in the Harper Center near Card Services, providing service to students and to people in the neighboring community. Tami has been asked to survey SAC members to determine the priority for Paid Time Off benefits vs. Maternity/Paternity leave. Doug McAcly has ended his tenure as Student Union President and has been replaced by Matthew Gillespie. Maria Teresa Gaston, Director of the Center for Service and Justice, has left Creighton to pursue full-time studies. Creative Services has developed a website for the Jesuit Community. It invites us to ask the Jesuits to pray for our intentions. There are three new Jesuits at Creighton. One is working with the Jesuit Academy, one is with CCSJ, and the third is coming from Brazil to study English.

Kim Manning from Public Relations reported that a market research study has begun to assess alumni, students, parents, prospective students and their families, faculty, staff, patients and the public to determine how these groups perceive Creighton's Mission. Results will aid in the development of marketing and branding strategies. CU Alert has been programmed so notifications go to classroom phones. The NCAA soccer event in Billy Blues was successful with about 500 people in attendance. The ADA symposium will be in April rather than January. Steve Schueler is Interim Vice President of University Relations and the search for a Vice President is moving forward. The FY12 budget is on track.

John Wilhelm noted the move of the College of Business to Harper is dependent on donations, so will not begin for three to six months or longer. Tentative moves planned are the Vice President for Student Life suite to the second floor of Creighton Hall, Arts and Sciences Dean's Office to Eppley, Registrar's Office to the upper level of Brandeis, Multicultural Affairs to the lower level of Brandeis, Student Success and Retention to the Reinart Alumni Library, Educational Opportunities to the Old Gym, Math Department to Eppley, and International Programs to the third floor of Creighton Hall. Services such as the Bookstore, Financial Aid, Career Center, Admissions and Student Health will continue to be housed in Harper. The cost of refurbishing older buildings will be part of the project, including an elevator installation in Brandeis and reopening the Walsh Lecture Hall in Eppley. \$20-25 million in pledges must be committed before any movement begins.

Creighton has received full accreditation from the Association for Accreditation of Human Research Protection Program, exceeding Federal standards for human research. The Commission on College

Nursing Education reaffirmed the BSN and MSN accreditation for ten years and the Doctor of Nursing Practice has been granted initial accreditation for five years, which is the longest time possible.

January meeting: Fr. Lannon has distributed the following about Convocation.

We have taken the initial steps in our strategic planning process. University leadership, composed of the deans and vice presidents, began charting the course for the University's future at the President's Retreat in January. The leadership team developed initial themes in establishing a new vision and strategic goals for the University. The goals identified by the leadership team are:

- Strengthen our Catholic, Jesuit mission and advance the diversity of the Creighton community as well as the University's local, national and international partnerships.
- Develop an excellent, adaptable undergraduate experience grounded in the Catholic, Jesuit liberal arts tradition that recognizes market relevance/demand and prepares compassionate leaders for employment and/or graduate/professional education.
- Provide an outstanding health education experience and clinical opportunities that foster patient-centered high quality care.
- Promote outstanding research and freedom of inquiry throughout the University community.
- Leverage the broad array of Creighton University's schools and colleges to develop a culture that promotes multidisciplinary programs and creates interdisciplinary centers of excellence.
- Ensure the overall financial stability of Creighton University for an even more robust future.
- Engage students in the use of new technologies and teaching pedagogies to enhance student learning outcomes.

The next step in the one-year process is to establish a planning committee, representing all schools and colleges, with students, faculty, staff, alumni and Board representation. I will chair the committee. Gail Jensen, Ph.D., Dean of the Graduate School, and Tony Hendrickson, Ph.D., Dean of the College of Business, will act as vice chairs.

The planning committee will seek input from all constituencies. Our goal is to tie our operations and growth plans to our vision and Creighton's Catholic, Jesuit mission. The [strategic planning website](#) will keep you updated on our progress. In the near future, the members of the planning committee will be posted on the website.

As we look to the future, we are planning to change Creighton's academic organizational structure to a provost model. The complexity of our University and the breadth of our colleges and schools make this model ideal for Creighton. Further, it will provide greater opportunities for multidisciplinary programs. I will be communicating more about this in the weeks ahead.

Tami said that a staff member will be represented on the council. Town Halls will be held to inform the larger community and to garner feedback and Tami asked for our support to stay informed about the strategic plans of the University.

At the recent CSU Board retreat, Vice Presidents came to the luncheon with their representatives. Improvement to the website, improved student communications, and improvement to Sodexo menus were some topics discussed in breakout sessions. University College has expressed interest in having formal representation on CSU. Sorority recruitment went well and a new sorority will come on campus in the spring. Campus-wide scholarship processes have been developed for more consistency. The Blue, White and You campaign has kicked off. A new Facebook page has been launched. The Business Service Center is open. Construction of the Rasmussen Center is ahead of schedule because of the good weather. Freshman applications are up and retention is up.

Fr. Lannon would like to know what is on the mind of SAC and our constituents and questions and concerns for him should be forwarded to Tami.

The Maternity/Paternity Policy was discussed and there was unanimous approval for support. Tami asked that we identify the policy we feel has higher priority for Cabinet approval, although we will continue to back both. The Maternity/Paternity Policy was approved as the first priority.

There was discussion about speakers for the spring Town Hall. Tami will contact Jeff Branstetter and Mary Duda about the March meeting.

4. Reports:

- Standing Rules: No report, awaiting University reorganization by Fr. Lannon.
- Issues: Tadd said that he has had questions about Creighton increasing the retirement contribution by two percent to match the amount going into the plan before the recession. Discussion about this is ongoing.
- Nominations: The vote for Rookie of the Year is very close as the candidates are outstanding.
- Jesuit Relations: Eddy is organizing a party for April 26 at the Cardiac Center with SAC and the Jesuits. Valentines will be sent to all the priests in the Community.
- Staff Relations: There was discussion about speakers for the Town Hall that will be on April 12 from Noon-1:10 p.m. Heather will advertise.
- Staff Service: The Committee has met with Celeste Holmes about the next Backpack Challenge.
- Treasurer's Report – Sue gave an update.

LeeAnn asked for volunteers to sit at the SAC table at the sourcing show on March 7.

5. Guest speakers: Dean Obenauer, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, counsels students about financial literacy. He shared his presentation.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Liz Flaherty  
SAC Secretary