Staff Council Executive Meeting with President Bruce Harreld
April 26, 2016
101 Jessup Hall

Attending: Bruce Harreld, President; Kevin Ward, Interim Vice President for Human Resources; Erin Brothers, Laurie Hafner Dahms, Hans Hoerschelman, John Laverty, Shannon Lizakowski, Monica Madura, Glenda Smith, Matthew Watson, and Chuck Wieland.

Absent: Marsha Adolph

Meeting called to order

Updates
Hans Hoerschelman is working with Laura McLeran, Ted Yanecek and Ed Hill on a management solution that will assist in keeping track of the status of concerns and projects for the Path Forward committees. This will help with communicating to all staff about the status of issues and work being accomplished.

From the initial Path Forward meetings there has been some concern among the staff involved in the committees, that the agendas are not getting posted early enough so that the committee members have time to prepare and feel like they can participate effectively in the meeting. President Harreld said each team has a site and the agendas should be posted to those sites so everyone can be on the same page. The team members should notify the team leads (Provost Butler or Rod Lehnertz) with issues.

The Budget Planning process is underway. The process this year will be quite different. Allocating resources will be around the Strategic Plan Priority Areas which are still being finalized. There has been a one-day budget retreat for the ~37 budgetary units to discuss the Priority Areas in which Staff Council leadership was present. At this point, there will be “speed meetings” where each budget team from the various units on campus, will make their case about how they plan to allocate resources. There will be a final meeting with all budget participants to go over the entire budget plan. Staff Council will get two seats at the table for that meeting. One major difference this year is that there will be no mandate for salaries to be increased at a set amount. President Harreld pointed out that in seven of the last ten years, GEF funding has actually gone up but salary issues have crowded out any forward movement on other projects. The perception at the University community was that funding was stagnant when most years it actually increased.

Discussion was held about staff engagement in the Strategic Planning Process that is being led by David Cunning and Sarah Hansen. Hans Hoerschelman asked how the membership of the committee was decided. There is only one staff person on the committee who is not an Associate VP or higher. President Harreld said that Provost Butler had convened this committee and the desire was to make the Strategic Plan a lightweight document. The timeframe was very fast. Staff Council will get the information to the team as soon as possible to make sure our concerns are included in the plan.

Kevin Ward, Interim Vice President for Human Resources gave a quick update about the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). Kevin is anticipating that the final regulations will be issued by May 15 and we will probably need to implement by September 1.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Hafner Dahms, Secretary