**Meeting Minutes**

Student Government 2018-2019

Monday, November 12, 2018

1. Welcome by Ambrose Ludwyche, Executive Committee President

2. Introduction by Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Chief Officers of the College

* Lauren Bowen, Provost
* Matthew Damschroder, Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students
* Rob Yelnosky, Vice President for Enrollment Management
* Anne Wood, Assistant Vice President and Chief Information Officer
* Jim Watt, Vice President for Advancement
* James Troha, President
* Marita Gilbert, Dean of Institutional Equity and Inclusive Excellence
* Absent:
  + Bethany Sheffield, Executive Assistant to the President
  + Christine Gibson, Vice President for Finance and Administration
  + Gabe Welsch, Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing

8. Open Forum: Questions for the SLT

1. Hiring Process: PLEXUS Advisor
   1. Aware of the need for an Advisor and in the process of hiring one, but unlikely will happen this year due to the length of the search process and Budget, students will be involved in the hiring process
2. How are you working to diversify the faculty more?
   1. There is a commitment and desire to diversify the staff outlined in the Strategic Plan and is something paid attention to annually
   2. Recently joined the Contortion on Diversity and Inclusion
   3. Pursuing strategic efforts on how to be more appealing to diverse candidates and how to retain them
   4. Inclusion Ordinance December 18th will help support a more inclusive Huntingdon
   5. Changing the way we think about hiring to include a longer timeline
   6. Expanding upon visiting lecturers with more post-doctoral fellows, one-semester faculty exchange which offers different perspectives
3. Biased Instances: No real progression to addressing them
   1. Conversations continue in small groups, classes and with visiting speakers
   2. Students are in conversations about how to change the campus culture, but these events are often not campus-wide and are more intensive and selective
   3. Training opportunities such as Green Dot and Faculty Diversity Training
   4. Modifying Orientation and Inbound Trainings
   5. Implemented a new Online Training for incoming students that includes many of the Diversity and Inclusion Expectations
   6. RSO meetings
   7. Leadership Trainings
   8. Changes in the General Education Curriculum reflect the messages and expectations of the campus community
   9. On the conduct side of things, have made it more clear that their participation in the Juniata College community is not welcome
4. Be more proactive, not reactive
   1. More several speaker series or expand student voice
   2. Highlight more types of diversity
5. Dramatic shift in the culture/climate of the campus community and a divide due to mistrust based on a lack of communication and students being blindsided by changes
   1. Plan looking forward to improve communication between Administration and Faculty, Administration and Students, and Faculty and Students
      1. Communication via email
      2. continue the student representation on every Academic Committee or increase the number of student representatives on committees to be more than one
      3. Provost Bowen will bring up this discussion in the next Faculty Meeting about making a constitutional change to the Constitution with the Executive Committee
      4. Matthew is the voice for Students on the SLT
      5. Students are employed in each department and sit in on meetings and offer their perspectives
      6. Survey requests
6. Retention rates are dangerously low for students of color compared to other students
   1. The Enrollment and Retention Team looks in experiences for obstacles that prevented these students from being successful with an exit survey
   2. New software package that helps them better understand the nuances of students
   3. One-on-one conversations with students who chose to leave or those who have graduated
   4. Look at the group-resources and staffing in departments that were not the same to promote inclusion within the classroom
   5. Partnering with counselors through community-based organizations that will serve as resources to students from home
   6. Advertising the networking opportunities
7. Full-time Advisor for Community Engagement?
   1. Yes, since there is a local engagement component to the New Curriculum, looking at expanding this Office
8. Rugby fields behind Ellis are flooded. Are there plans for the spring?
   1. Matthew will have a conversation with Athletics about a plan for field space for club sports, such as access to the turf fields
9. Housing as it pertains to retention
   1. The Board of Trustees understands the need to prioritize renovating residential buildings and they will be starting from the worst to the best
   2. The alumni that donate do not necessarily know what students want
   3. “Yes” to students making a “Student Wish List”
10. How much of the Believe Campaign is not specified and can students have input in where it is spent?
    1. The majority of the money raised is for scholarships. Want to make the College affordable for students and want to give students what they need to be successful while they are here
    2. Determining which initiative with affect the most people is difficult and there are many competing initiatives
11. Why is CWS not a CW?
    1. It is, but it is a pre-requisite for your CW credits and you need to take more CW-designated classes
12. Can we enhance the Museum?
    1. Yes, are looking into grants to expand it and support the storage collections
13. Are CWS Lab Leaders still going to exist next year?
    1. Yes, the peer leader component of First Year Composition and First Year Foundations will be important.
14. How much money do we have to spend on the dorm renovations?
    1. None of the gifts at this time would address Residence Halls, but will be raising funds for these projects
15. How merit scholarships coverage changes?
    1. Need to communicate the flat scholarship with a tuition increase better
16. Freshman Class meeting about sexual assault?
    1. Will look into because not aware of one
17. Everyone is very upset about the meal plan options. Will there be a discussion about next semester?
    1. Matthew said there will be discussion of the meal plan opportunities going forward, but they are not contractually able to make changes for next semester