

## **PRESIDENT'S PANEL MINUTES**

October 22, 2009  
2:30 p.m.

Chart Room  
McFall Center

**Present:** Carol Cartwright (President), Ken Borland (Vice President for Academic Affairs), Edward Whipple (Vice President for Student Affairs), Kris Blair (Vice Chair of Faculty Senate), Lorrie Sawaie (Classified Staff Council), Faith Olson (Classified Staff Council), Sara Jo Zulch-Smith (Administrative Staff Council), Nancy Vanderlugt (Administrative Staff Council), Tony Short (Administrative Staff Council), Carl Walling (Graduate Student Senate), Sundeep Mutgi (Undergraduate Student Government), Kevin Basch (Undergraduate Student Government), Ellen Williams (Faculty Senate)

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Cartwright called the meeting to order and disseminated questions that had come from President's Panel participants in advance.

The following issues were discussed.

### **State of the Economy**

President Cartwright reported that there is a new \$850 million deficit at the State level due to the Supreme Court ruling calling for a referendum on the Video Lottery issue rather than allowing the Governor to institute the Video Lottery through his office. She also noted that the budget for this biennium is balanced based on one time money from the federal stimulus package. With these facts in mind, we must plan our financial activities prudently. Because of a cash management approach, we will receive our SSI monthly payments one month late therefore we may receive only eleven payments in one year rather than twelve. We may receive only 23 SSI payments in the biennium rather than 24 SSI payments. In addition, the funding formula for higher education is still under discussion at the state level because universities with open admissions policies have expressed concerns about possible adverse impacts. At this point, Bowling Green State University is planning for an \$8 million reduction for FY11.

### **State of the University**

President Cartwright asked Provost Borland to report on the enrollment initiatives at BGSU. Provost Borland provided a report highlighting the following initiatives:

- As part of our new recruitment strategy, we are increasing the frequency, duration and magnitude of all recruitment activities. (e.g. 1,000 high school visits (up from 443); 350 college fairs (up from 198))
- We are actively recruiting new out-of-state areas including: Pittsburgh and Erie, PA; Buffalo and Rochester, NY; East Lansing and Grand Rapids,

MI; Northern VA; Montgomery County, MD; selected sites in Texas; and Chicago, IL.

- There will be three fall receptions with a focus on prospective students and their parents. (A refreshed marketing approach will be used at these receptions.)
- On campus visits will focus on general areas of interest. (e.g. On November 6<sup>th</sup>, Media and Communication will feature Journalism, TCOM...A&S will feature IPC...and the College of Technology will feature VCT; On December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Colleges of Arts and Sciences and Health and Human Services will feature Science, Math and Environmental programs.)
- Preview Day was held on October 17<sup>th</sup> with 37,000 invitations (up from 25,000) being issued. There were 543 prospective students in attendance. The second Preview Day will be held on December 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Student Enrollment Communications Center will support department and college recruitment and retention efforts. (e.g. calling, emailing, Facebook, IMing, etc.)
- There will be expanded offerings and services for non-traditional students (e.g. commuters, adult learners, veterans, distance learners, community college transfers, etc.)

Olson asked if efforts were being made to increase the number of international students. Borland indicated that there were activities initiated to recruit more fee-paying international students. Mutgi asked if enrollment management activities would be highlighting new buildings such as the Stroh Center. Borland indicated that all new and proposed buildings would be highlighted through the enrollment initiatives. Cartwright also indicated that the initiatives would also highlight “mock-up plans” for new residential living and learning facilities at BGSU.

### **Plans for Future Cuts/ Personnel Reductions**

President Cartwright indicated that questions regarding future personnel reductions were raised by Administrative Staff Council, Classified Staff Council and by Faculty Senate Officers. She noted that it was probably too soon to tell if there would be further personnel reductions. BGSU operates a decentralized budgeting process that allows individual units to plan budgets with decreases/ increases and prioritization of needs and resources. Budgets are brought to Deans, to VP’s and to Faculty Senate Budget Committee/University Budget Committee where there are open hearings on the budget requests being presented. There are a number of cost savings activities being explored such as merging some services to provide more cost effective procedures for printing at BGSU.

Cartwright reiterated that it was too soon to know if there are going to be any personnel reductions based on budgetary constraints.

### **Reconfiguration**

President Cartwright noted there is no reconfiguration proposal at this time, only discussion about potential reconfiguration. Provost Borland reconfirmed that there was

no reconfiguration proposal at this time. He noted that the Deans began discussing reconfiguration in February of 2009 with the previous Provost. The Deans have come up with potential discussion points regarding reconfiguration. Borland indicated that he would be sending out a memo to the university community presenting the status of the current discussions regarding reconfiguration. He also noted that in the next week, he would be meeting with the Senate Executive Committee to further discuss the status of reconfiguration discussions.

### **Future Employment of Classified Staff at BGSU**

Olson stated that there are concerns from classified staff regarding future employment because of “outsourcing” activities at BGSU. (e.g. dining services to Chartwells) She noted that there were concerns that BGSU classified staff would be losing their employment due to this “outsourcing”. Cartwright indicated that we are not outsourcing our food service. No current BGSU staff will be required to become Chartwells employees. BGSU employees would be given the opportunity to switch employment to Chartwells. Vice President Whipple supported President Cartwright’s comments. He indicated that BGSU employees would have a choice in employment. For some, Chartwells might have better benefits; for others, BGSU might have better benefits. Whipple indicated that the services being provided by Chartwells are not to be considered as outsourcing but rather as BGSU taking on “service partners.” Outsourcing means that BGSU turns everything over to an outside agency to run. “Service Partner” arrangements mean that we collaboratively manage services. President Cartwright encouraged all constituent leaders to check out “rumors” regarding employment issues, etc., by getting the correct information and then informing their constituent groups in order to dispel rumors and circulate factual information.

### **Master Plan for Dining and Residence Halls**

President Cartwright asked Vice President Whipple to report on the progress of the Master Plan for building new dining and residence halls. Whipple noted that BGSU wants to control these as our own buildings. Many options are under discussion. For example, there has been some discussion about having builders own the buildings and BGSU leasing the buildings from the builders. BGSU would manage and staff these buildings. Currently, there is a Request for Quotes (RFQ) on these proposed dining and residence halls. Mutgi asked if the residence halls would be operating as a money-making or a break-even venture. Cartwright indicated that the housing would be offered at an affordable price but that the university had to make some profit to allow for building maintenance/improvement. Cartwright noted that while tuition may be higher than sister institutions, the combined costs of tuition, room and board was at a comparable rate with sister institutions.

### **Board of Trustees Compensation Committee**

President Cartwright noted that the Board of Trustees sets the compensation only for the President of the University. The BOT Compensation Committee developed a report that offered the BOT philosophy relative to compensation. They espoused fair market values, competitive salaries to recruit and retain employees and that any incentives be tied to performance.

### **Other Questions**

President Cartwright asked if the group had other questions.

What is the status of the Westridge Capital Management investment made by BGSU? Cartwright indicated the company had filed receivership and were in the process of court challenges. BGSU is in line to get some money back but it may take from 3 to 5 years.

What is the status of BGSU lobbying efforts in Columbus?

Cartwright indicated that we are doing well in Columbus and that we recently have hired a lobbying consultant, David Robinson, a 1989 graduate of BGSU who was the President of Undergraduate Student Government when he was here.

What is the status of funding for the Centers for Excellence?

President Cartwright announced that nine University Centers of Excellence (in eight universities) in the state featuring Sustainability and Alternative Energy have been approved and will be showcased. This includes Bowling Green's Center. These Centers will be potentially funded through Third Frontier money from the state.

President Cartwright thanked the constituent leaders and members of the President's Panel and asked them to do all they could do to promote factual information and to dispel rumors and inaccurate information.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

President Cartwright adjourned the meeting at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Ursula Williams  
Secretary of Faculty Senate