

May 3, 2018

Good afternoon,

Here's an update on a number of items:

Communications. In order to improve university communications, especially when we have concerns that arise on social media, I am asking Communications and Media Relations to work with SGA leadership and me to identify a process where we can ensure that we have a student perspective on announcements, when necessary, before they are released. As an update to last weekend, we will receive updates from Chartwells as they follow their personnel policy and processes. Following last Sunday's meeting with student, university and Chartwells leadership, VP Bowling and I have continued to update student leadership, and we are looking at next steps, beyond the communications change mentioned above and the commitment to invite the National Coalition-Building Institute (NCBI) back to campus later this summer or early fall.

Personnel. Mr. Leon Wyden will be joining FSU on May 14 as VP for Administration and Finance. The search firm helping us find a VP for Enrollment Management (EM) was on campus recently to meet with campus constituents. Napier Search specializes in EM searches and has a timeline to have a VP by late summer. Provost Throop will chair the search committee and we are in the process of forming the committee. I hope to announce within the next two weeks an interim Chief Human Resources Officer to assume that position in July following Ms. Kathy Snyder's retirement. We will conduct a national search for the next permanent CHRO. However, given that HR is moving under Administration and Finance, I want to give Mr. Wyden the opportunity to learn about our HR operations and the institution before embarking on the national search. Also, the application process for the Title IX coordinator just closed, and we will be getting the search committee together shortly to begin the review process.

D2 Process. We have had onsite visits from the Mountain East Conference (MEC) and our consultant regarding the possible move to D2. At this point, Mr. Troy Dell, the athletic director, and I have been invited to visit a few of the Mountain East Conference schools. The consultant is preparing a feasibility report on our capability to move to D2. We hope to have that report within the next two weeks. Once we have it, a summary of that report will be shared campus-wide and Troy and I will host an open session on campus. The timeline moving forward is that we must notify our current conference, Capital Athletic Conference, and the MEC no later than June 30 if we are interested in moving to D2. The actual application to the NCAA is due next February with a decision from the NCAA in summer 2019.

Strategic Planning. I apologize for the delay in completing the details for the 12 Action Items of the Strategic Plan, but the level of detail is more than we anticipated. We are near completion on a new webpage for the Strategic Plan, and I will again be circulating the 12 action items with a primary outcome for each to the campus community. I have asked the Strategic Planning task force co-chairs to suggest how we get feedback from the university community as we finalize those actions. I liken the Strategic Plan to building a house. The Vision, Goals, Themes, and Priorities help us decide we want a two-story house with 3 bedrooms, etc. The Action Items are getting into answers the builder needs to actually build it. Thanks for your patience; this plan is very important.

Commencement! Commencement ceremonies are three weeks from today. Between now and then we will have numerous activities celebrating student, faculty and staff accomplishments. I encourage you to attend events if possible. We also have final exams. I wish everyone well on those. And with spring

weather finally here, please enjoy the weather outdoors but please be respectful of your neighbors whether you live on or off campus.

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