

WKU Parents Association Parents Advisory Council Meeting April 9th, 2016

Welcome: Blair welcomed everyone and the meeting was called the meeting to order just after 10am.

Present:

Daniel Meyer, David and Marla Carter, Kelly Harper, Kitty Merkley, Lashea Whitaker, and Blair Jensen.

Absent: Myra Meyer, Jeff Harper, and Joe and Barbara Higginson.

Minutes: Marla Carter made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 20th meeting, seconded by Daniel Meyer. The motion carried.

Financial Report: *Current balance = \$14, 259.58.* \$5,000 is kept in reserve and there is \$185.46 pending expenses which leaves \$9,074.12. Kitty Merkley made the motion to approve the financial report presented to the association. Motion was seconded by Daniel Meyer. The motion carried.

Staff Reports: Becky Tinker, Associate Director, Center for Career and Professional Development (CCPD), provided the Parents Advisory Council with a programming and services update (see handout). Ms. Tinker shared low student attendance at the Spring Job Fair. She reported that the department is moving toward college-specific job fairs (i.e. Ogden College S.T.E.M. Job Fair, Nursing Job Fair, PCAL career event). CCPD offered free headshots to students; 35 students took advantage of this service. Up-coming events include the Athletics Job Fair on April 13th and an additional round of free headshots to students.

Blair Jensen provided the Parents Advisory Council with institutional updates regarding the Kentucky state biennial budget and budget allocations for Higher Education, and the presidential search process.

Guest Presenter: Elizabeth Madariaga, Sexual Assault Services Coordinator with WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, presented, "Sexual Assault and Title IX: What Parents Need to Know." Ms. Madariaga provided information about WKU's educational initiatives including "Green Dot" training and Sexual Assault Awareness Month events. She also reviewed the state and federal laws surround sexual assault and Title IX and shared how the university strives to educate students, faculty, and staff members in prevention, intervention, and response. Ms. Madariaga provided each member in attendance with a folder containing her business card and informational brochures distributed to students, faculty, and staff members.

Old Business: Blair Jensen shared plans for recruiting new members during the up-coming TOP season with the Parents Advisory Council. In addition, she expressed interest in reviewing and

revising the membership structure. Ms. Jensen proposed one flat membership fee or event perhaps a student-assessed fee to support Parent and Family Programs.

New Business:

Proposals-

1. WKU Student Wellness Program “WellU”

During the February 20th meeting of the Parents Advisory Council, Casey Cahill, representing the department of Intramural-Recreational Sports, presented a funding request for \$2,000 dollars to fund two scholarships. These scholarships would be awarded to two students randomly selected from a pool of WellU participants who have completed enough activities to be a “Level 2” winner.

After much discussion, the Council decided not to award WellU with the \$2,000 as requested. The Council proposed that instead of the \$2,000 being split into two-\$1000 scholarships, it be split into four \$500 scholarships, to benefit more students. At that time, the Council asked Blair Jensen to meet with Alissa Arnold, Student Wellness Coordinator, to discuss the possibility of splitting the \$2,000 into four \$500 scholarships.

Blair Jensen met with Alissa Arnold in early April. She reported that during her meeting with Ms. Arnold, Ms. Arnold stated that the reward structure for the WellU program was under review, and that now was a perfect time to consider alternative scholarship amounts. She also stated that she would happily ensure, in addition to posting the Parents Association logo on WellU advertisements, students receiving the scholarships would know the Parents Association had helped fund them. She also stated she would be willing to provide the Parents Advisory Council the names of the awarded students so that the Council could contact the awarded student’s family and encourage their involvement in the Association.

While the Council was in support of moving forward with the award, the Council chose not award the \$2,000 at the April 9th meeting due to a lack of WellU representation at the meeting. Instead, they stated a new proposal could be presented at the fall 2016 meeting reflecting the new scholarship structure.

M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan 2016: Blair Jensen shared the dates for M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan 2016: Sunday, August 14th – Thursday, August 18th. She also shared that the Parents Association would have a table set-up at M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan Registration on Sunday, August 14th from 8am-4pm on the third floor of Downing Student Union. She shared she would be selling Association memberships and reminding parents to attend Parent and Family Weekend.

Parent and Family Weekend 2016: Blair Jensen shared the dates for Parent and Family Weekend 2016: Friday, September 30th-Saturday, October 1st. She shared that she would be adding new events to the Weekend schedule.

Executive Committee-Open Officer Positions: Blair Jensen shared that the Council currently has three vacant Executive Committee positions: Chair/Co-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

While there was some interest in the positions, the Council agreed to wait until the Fall 2016 meeting to elect these positions.

2016-2017 Meeting Dates: Blair Jensen suggested setting the dates for the up-coming academic year. Tentative plans were made for the Council to meet in November, February, and April.

Closing Remarks: Next meeting date, time, and location to be determined. The meeting was brought to a close and adjourned.