



**Collaboration Council  
February 15, 2010**

**Present:** Larry Snyder, Doug Yates, Colleen Jorgensen, Verne Ingram, Kim Rein, Peggy Morgan, Michele Haney, Paulann Doane, Bruce Walthers, Andrew Stevens, Marilyn Kenfield, Suzanne Sullivan, and Frankie Rubio. **Absent:** Kathy Schissler, Christie Burton, David Shannon, Kristin Aslan, Pamela Mencher, Scott Wifall, Mike Shaw

There was a discussion concerning the pets on campus policy in which the majority of the campus voted to allow pets. Michele requested feedback as we now have a double set of rules; one for students and one for staff. Michele stated that the votes came with many comments in regards to people with allergies and if people will be responsible. It was discussed as to whether we should relook at the situation at the end of six months or the end of a semester to see if there were any unintended issues. The consensus was to see what the issues were, if any, at the end of the summer.

The recommendation will go to cabinet. Michele distributed handouts on wellness tips that you can learn from your dog.

Colleen stated that the community college system is honoring faculty and each college was allowed to pick two faculty members; one person chosen was Terry Reeves. Steve Brown is the other faculty member chosen, but that has not been announced yet.

Paulann brought forward information concerning creating a memorial garden. She had been contacted by someone internally who would like us to establish a memorial garden. There is a potential anonymous gift to get this started. Kevin has some ideas for where to place the garden. Paulann is considering purchasing fifty bricks for under the \$1,000 and working with Human Resources to be sure we have all appropriate names. It appears that RRCC will use all fifty bricks at this point. There was a discussion as to how far back we go for names and the type of information imprinted on the brick. Also discussed was funding for the garden. The more bricks ordered, the cheaper they are. We are able to print two lines per brick. Larry mentioned that through faculty donations we could sustain this project. Michele stated that she thought most of the campus would be supportive and help fund this effort. Michele requested the garden be placed where it is convenient to visit and not be hit by Frisbees. It was the consensus to move this idea forward to Cabinet.

Michele referred to the February 9 email we received from Nancy McCallin in regard to what she knew was occurring with the legislative session and the budget. There continues to be discussion amid the presidents and business officers concerning the current formula on distribution of funding. What presently occurs is they apply a slope, but the larger the institution, the less you receive per FTE. Due to the slope, if you are currently a smaller institution and you have 1,000 FTE, you receive a huge drop-off in terms of percentages of funding per FTE from 999 to 1,000. There is conversation as to whether we should change this as the hardship falls on larger schools. They are running a Maryland module, which is named after a module used in the State of Maryland. The module takes percentages off the top for fixed costs taking into consideration your size. There is a variety of discussions going on at the moment. There was another discussion last week and the running of figures. Some formulas look better for RRCC than others.

Peggy gave an overview of the attached spreadsheet concerning FY 09-10 Budget Summary as of January 31, 2010. Michele stated the bottom line from Nancy's email to us all speaks to the community college system's share of the cut, which she anticipates will be in FY 10-11 and equates to 8.2% or 11.8 million. RRCC's share is 1.9 million. In regard to the formula, the anticipated gambling money is only about 4 million dollars which likens to about \$400,000 in the fall for RRCC. This is straight head count base. We would be sharing money with Mesa and Adams State and Aims Community College. Michele stated we are currently holding our own. Our projections for 2011 will be another 9% tuition increase for resident students and 5% for non residence rates with no increase in fees. We will also consider our calculations as to if we have a decline in enrollment. It is important that we be prepared if there is a decrease in enrollment.

The question was posed as to whether we expect the State to ask for budget back this year and Peggy responded yes, because we have received federal money. Michele also stated that we will not anticipate salary increases next year as other state agencies continue to be furloughed.

Michele wants Collaboration Council to look at what we want to spend any additional revenue on. Next meeting we should know a little more about a rescission. Michele announced if anyone would like a member of cabinet to make the presentation on the budget to their constituency, they would be happy to do so.

Michele also mentioned that 2010-11 Collaboration Council members will continue membership throughout this year. Each constituency group needs to put into place the process to select new members for the 2010-2011 academic year prior to the end of the semester.

Colleen said that there are several faculty who would like the college to consider taking a week long fall break during Thanksgiving week. Some schools do it, others do not. The proposed change would be fall 2011 and begin Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup> through Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>; classes would end December 13<sup>th</sup>; Wednesday and Thursday would be the non student workdays. It equates to working later in December by a couple of days. The negative side of this would be

the students that are hanging on by a thread may disappear as they do after spring break. The positive side is that we have absenteeism with students not being in school that week due to the holiday. It was discussed as to whether this would align with Jefferson County Schools taking a week off at the same time. This idea will go to Faculty Senate for further discussion.

Andy announced that we may have our 10,000<sup>th</sup> student this year. We are currently at 9,600.