TO: PCPS Dean’s Conference  
FROM: Diane S. Muniz  
DATE: October 5, 2010  
SUBJECT: Summary of September 30, 2010 PCPS Dean’s Conference Meeting

Attending: Dr. LeeAnn Eschbach, Mr. David Hair, Ms. Lisa LoBasso, Ms. Andrea Mantione, Ms. Marybeth McDonough, Ms. Dianne Posegate, Dr. John Sanko, Mr. Ray Schwenk, Dr. Bill Wallick, Dr. Gloria Wenze, Dr. Dan West, Ms. Deborah Zielinski in place of Dr. Patricia Harrington

The March 30, 2010 summary was approved with no changes.

Updates from the Dean’s Office:
The PCPS Associate Dean position will be advertised in the near future. A search committee is being formed in accordance with faculty handbook requirements. The Associate Dean’s search will take priority over the Assistant Dean’s search.

Curriculum changes should be submitted in October or November in order to filter through the system for final approval for academic year 2011-2012. Contact the Dean’s office if you need any assistance in this process.

Leahy Faculty Research Grant information was sent out via e-mail on 9/29/10. Chairs are asked to speak to their faculty and encourage faculty to submit proposals.

Dr. Wallick has been meeting with the Chairs regarding adjunct faculty and course evaluations. Chairs are asked to work with the Program Directors to encourage all adjunct faculty to set objectives for the courses they are teaching.

The Freshman Seminar lecture was a success with 262 students attending. Chairs were asked to remind the Freshman Seminar instructors including the PCPS Pilot Freshman Seminar course about the service learning requirements and the importance of submitting contracts on time.

The Circle of Scholars met on September 10th. Over 20 faculty were present to share their research ideas with Dr. Ayad Haboubi. A discussion group has been set up on Angel to encourage further discussion and collaboration. Dr. Haboubi is available to meet with individual faculty concerning their research agenda.

The Conference on DisAbility takes place on October 6th. A reduced rate of $40.00 is available to faculty and staff. The John Hockenberry presentation is free of charge and open to the public.

Ms. Marybeth McDonough, Interim Assistant Dean, will be developing a communication plan for the college and is responsible for updating the PCPS Dean’s webpage. Visible links to each PCPS department will be included on the Dean’s web page.
The Dean’s office has purchased a wide screen television which will be located on the first floor of McGurrin Hall. A rolling building directory will be one of the screens visible to the public. If you have any announcements that you would like to appear on the screen, please send the information to Patricia Connolly or Diane Muniz.

The Blessing of the Books will take place on November 30th at 3:30 p.m. in the lobby of McGurrin Hall. Collection containers will be placed in various locations on campus. Last year, PCPS collected over 1600 books for children.

Fifteen PCPS faculty are involved in grant writing workshops and seven of the fifteen will have grants submitted by the end of the year. Funding for these workshops is made possible by the HPTEG grant. Future grant writing opportunities will be available.

The Academic Services department is currently undergoing their next advising cycle. Ms. Posegate asked the Chairs to send her information about course restrictions and number of seats available in classes. Ms. Posegate is a member of the Student Behavior and Concerns committee. A pamphlet identifying student behaviors that may cause concern will be distributed to all faculty. She explained that it is important to identify students and get them the help they need.

Mr. Ray Schwenk, Assessment and Accreditation Specialist, is available to all PCPS departments to help with self studies, assessments, surveys and accreditation needs.

Ms. Lisa LoBasso is completing the final year of her doctoral program. As part of her program she is serving as an intern in the PCPS Dean’s office. If departments have any projects that she may be able to help with, please contact the Dean and/or Lisa. Lisa will lead the Blessing of the Books project.

Department Updates:
Counseling & Human Services: Twenty-one freshmen have entered the undergraduate major. The annual poster session will be held in November.

Nursing: The department has been renamed the Mary Eileen McGurrin, R.N., M.S.N. School of Nursing. Student enrollment is as high as it has ever been.

LCH&FC: Each of the PCPS departments are represented in the Center. She reminded the Chairs that if someone has a project they would like to conduct in the Center, they need to discuss this with Ms. Mantione in a timely fashion in order to facilitate implementation. The Lackawanna Medical Society is hosting a wine tasting event on Friday, October 15, 2010. All proceeds from this event will go to the Leahy Clinic.

Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy: The OT/PT department is near their target enrollment of 40 students. On December 3rd the department will host a Research Night with eight groups of student presenting research.

Exercise Science & Sport: The department has its largest freshmen class ever. EXSC and CHED students will offer wellness services at the Conference for DisAbility.
HAHR: The HR online program has over 100 full-time graduate students. The department’s professional advisory council has been reconstituted.

Education: The number of students enrolled in the undergraduate Education major is decreasing; however, the graduate enrollment has increased. Recently the department hosted visiting scholars from Slovakia and Kenya.

PCPS Leadership, Planning and Conference Report:
The kick-off for discussion of the PCPS Strategic Plan took place at the August 10th PCPS Retreat. Magis was discussed and suggestions were put into writing and distributed to the Chairs for them to share with the faculty and to continue discussions. Faculty scholarship and research including grant writing was highlighted.

Strategic Planning for PCPS
Curra Personalis: The Dean asked the Chairs to think about the strengths in PCPS and how PCPS makes a difference. Items mentioned were: Theory to Practice, Professional Development (fit for the profession), Freshmen lecture, faculty going on service trips, gratitude, active student organizations, Advising Center taking time to meet with every single freshman to see how they are adjusting, true concern for students—care for their well being, academics and beyond. All PCPS freshmen attend a mandatory meeting on “Jesuit Education and the Helping Professions.” The Dean asked the Chairs to brainstorm with their departments about where we want to go with this and what else do we need to do.

Rei Solicitude: The Dean explained that she is still working on finding a “home” for OT, PT and Exercise Science. The current conditions are inappropriate and something needs to be done soon. The goal of facility improvements for PT/OT and EXSC will be key in the PCPS strategic plan for Rei Solicitude. The College is in need of faculty positions to accommodate the increase in enrollments in many of our programs, e.g. HR online, OT, etc.

PCPS 501-International and Global Learning:
Dr. Dan West asked the members for input about how to reconstitute the course PCPS 500--International and Global Learning. He explained that this course is not housed in any one department and has always been cross listed. This course would provide graduate students with global and international experiences. Dr. West asked the members to discuss this in their departments and send him e-mails with ideas.

The Dean will be revisiting the idea of offering a PCPS Honors program.

c: PCPS Faculty & Staff
   APC
   Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.