TO:       CPS Dean’s Conference
FROM:    Diane S. Muniz
DATE:   November 7, 2007
SUBJECT: Summary of the November 7, 2007 meeting

Present: Dr. John Sanko, Dr. Michael Olivette, Mr. David Hair, Dr. Dan West, Dr. Lori Bruch, Dr. Patricia Harrington, Dr. Barbara Cozza, Ms. Carol Radle, Dr. Debra Pellegrino
Dr. Bruch attended the meeting in Dr. Morgan’s absence

The Dean opened the meeting with a reading from the book, When Marian Sang by Pam Muñoz Ryan.

The Blessing of the Books project is currently underway. Book donations can be dropped in containers located in McGurrin, Gunster and the Exercise Science area of the Long Center. Bookplates are available in the PCPS Advising Center or Dean’s Office if anyone wishes to place their own “blessing” in the book. Father Pilarz will bless all books on December 4, 2007 at 4:00 p.m. in the McGurrin Reading room. The books will then be distributed to laundromats, shelters for displaced women and children, the Leahy Clinic, etc.

The Circle of Scholars met on November 2nd. Dr. Bruch attended this session and commented on the value and support offered by the group. She felt that this opportunity is another way to encourage scholarship for faculty and staff. The intent of the Circle of Scholars is to offer faculty and professional staff an opportunity to write and learn from each other and to share the craft of scholarly writing. The next Circle will take place on Friday, December 7th. The group also liked the idea of having a central location to meet. As a result, the McGurrin Hall Reading room will be reserved each Friday from 12:00 Noon to 4:30 p.m. as a quiet place for faculty use.

The December 5th Dean’s Conference meeting will be a luncheon meeting beginning at 11:30 a.m. at a location to be determined.

The Spring Dean’s Conference meeting dates were distributed. The March 18th date will be changed due to the Spring break.

The summary of the October meeting was approved.

The Dean gave an update of the Edward R. Leahy, Jr. Center Clinic for the Uninsured. She showed the group a PowerPoint presentation which was done for the physicians of the Scranton Temple Residency Program. The PowerPoint will be sent to the Chairs in case anyone wishes to share it with faculty. The Dean reminded the group that the Leahy Family Center is open to all of PCPS programs.

During the spring the Dean’s Conference will be considering the vision for PCPS. The Dean would like everyone to think about a ten year vision for the College. Questions to think about
are: Where should we be going? What is it that we do well? What are the resources needed? Where do you want to take our College?

The Chairs did a SWOT analysis for the PCPS Board of Visitors.

Strengths
- Outside expertise
- Their enthusiasm
- Networking
- Celebration
- Accountability
- Diversity
- Support of our work
- Fundraising for Global Initiatives
- New ideas

Weaknesses
- There wasn’t enough focus in the meetings
- It seems like it was something that happened twice a year and there was never a follow through
- Never knew what the outcomes were
- Unstructured—if a department could get x number of people, that was fine; if a department could not find anyone, that was fine. Chairs were encouraged to find people but there was never a real plan on how to do that
- The Board is an advisory group only. There are limitations when it is only an advisory group
- Lack of focus and concern for targeting the mission of the College itself
- Education department was never a concern
- Focus—at one time the Chairs were asked to recommend people from the field, and then the Chairs were asked to recommend people who had money. Finding people in the field was not a problem; finding people with money was a problem.

Opportunities
- Building bridges to the greater community
- Opportunities for mentoring of our students, which did occur with the health profession students
- Employment opportunities
- Providing connections for our students
- Experts and money
- Chances for applied research; an endowed Chair for our College
- Larger network affiliations
- Opportunity for recruitment and faculty
- Bringing PCPS out into the global society
- Disciplinary work that goes beyond what we talk about on a daily basis

Threats
- Time
- Perception from the rest of the campus/worry about tapping into some of their resources
• Are we able to deliver some of the ideas the Board comes up with? We need to follow through with action.
• Looking at the outcome. Do we have an outcome for the Board of Visitors? Are we assessing it?

The Chairs were asked to reflect on these four areas and to obtain input from the faculty. This will be an agenda item during the spring semester so we can begin to reconfigure the Board of Visitors. A suggestion was made to create an overarching goal that is interdisciplinary, based on needs for all departments, and then set out to recreate the Board of Visitors. We will also ask for input from the Board members.

The 2008 Conference on disAbility is set for October 8 & 9 in the DeNaples Center. Drs. Lori Bruch and Ralph Pacinelli will co-chair the Conference. The theme will center around the veterans returning home from serving overseas with disabilities and the impact on the family and the community. Dr. Pellegrino sent out special thanks to Vanessa Silla, Connie Wisdo and their committee on the fine job that was done with this year’s Conference.

The Dean reminded the Chairs to inform the faculty to read the Self study report. The report can be found at www.scranton.edu/selfstudy. She asked that faculty look at the GE requirements and how we can connect it to our programs with our credit requirements. The Dean feels that PCPS is not represented in this report. Why don’t they celebrate the fact that PCPS already does assessments in our programs? We do good things in PCPS and it should be in the report.

Dr. West distributed information on the STRP Health Science Research 2008—“Obesity and Its Consequences.” Abstracts are being accepted until January. Please share the information with faculty.

An electronic vote for the Faculty Development Plan will take place in the very near future.

c: APC
Rev. Scott R. Pilarz, S.J.