AP Committee Minutes of the Meeting of December 5, 2011

Members Present:

Brian Cole, Nick Nelson, Jim Rademaker, Michelle DeWitt, Diane Laughlin, Luanne Brown, Jackie Rautio, Scott Richardson, Michael Eichberger, Ed Simon, Quincy Williams, Michelle McCloud, and guest Aaron Haight (Chair of Salary and Benefits Sub-Committee)

Absent:

Dave Feenstra

1. **Minutes**

The minutes from the November 21, 2011 AP Committee meeting were approved.

1. **Announcements - none**
2. **Guest Speaker: President Haas**

**\***Optimism of students, faculty, and staff has been overwhelming to the President: gave thanks to the AP’s for their attitude and work efforts, especially with the current climate in Michigan.

**\***Lansing has put out the “talent message”: sees the need for higher ed institutions to work together to educate our young folks. A high school degree no longer carries us through. Pres. Haas feels that Gov. Snyder will be called into accountability himself in the next year. GV has remained one of the most effective institutions in the nation.

\*President had lunch with Govenor Snyder last week: The Govenor said both privately and publicly that he appreciates what GV does for its students. House is adversarial to us, the Senate is neutral, the Govenor seems to favor us.

\*Pres. Haas would like to ask the members of the House: where would they be without their degrees? They are all graduates of public institutions.

\*GV is one of the lowest funded per student in the nation. We operate about $2300 less per student compared to the average in Michigan.

\*Our cost per student has gone up $25 in the past 10 years! The increase in cost from the state has gone into tuition. Our cost has really been flat.

\*The state may move towards performance based metrics for funding. Many other states have adopted this method. New York is one, where the President used to be. Haas supports this method, it would be helpful for Grand Valley.

\*Higher Ed and K-12 are fighting for the same funds –

\*GV has enough base budget from the state only to take care of debt and retirement. The rest comes from tuition dollars. Taking a salary freeze and re-adjusting our benefits has gone a long way towards keeping our tuition rates down.

\*GV may be a little behind in retaining minorities: we are still recruiting, and doing well, but not retaining. Haas agreed that we are still in the recruiting phase: but retention numbers are increasing. GV has “Persistence Pals”: embraces students that we want to keep/encourage/etc. These students may come from disadvantaged backgrounds. We need to be more intentional in retaining. Hopefully we’ll see some turn around.

\*J. Rademaker heard a story on Higher Ed developing programs, or changing curriculum to help retain minorities. M. DeWitt said if a child is a ward of the state for one year, they come with tuition monies. Many of these kids need a boost to get into college – which is why changing curriculum is very helpful. Not just minorities, but low socioeconomic status kids need help.

\*New Science Building: assume that funding will be coming, but has not been approved as of yet. Parking will be effected slightly in Lot F, but this campus has plenty of parking. Looking at 2016 – we will have a new building.

\*More doctoral programs? Not unless they align with specific goals and programs we are already involved with. It may make good sense in some cases, but Haas does not see us as a terminal degree institution. It won’t be a University that we really appreciate. We have some maturing to do, but we won’t do it with doctoral programs.

\*For the “outside” campus locations, i.e. Holland, the vision to fill these buildings is still in discussion. Continuing Ed, Degree Completion, and partnerships with GRCC (in Holland) for place-bound students are the three major components towards that end.

\*On-line learning is part of, not in place of, our institution. There are some programs that can be totally online (like the Education Masters), but it doesn’t always work. The hybrid approach really makes sense. Uses of technology are good to enable learning outcomes, but the technology cannot drive that: it can only assist.

\*Haas disagrees with the legislation that Higher Ed institutions do not cooperate with each other. Pres. Haas has been to retreats and meetings with other institutions that have gone very well: he reports that they all look to each other as a collegial group that works together. Holding a sense of autonomy is crucial, but working together is vital. One rub is Community Colleges offering 4-year degrees, he does not agree with this. Mentions the 131/31 Corridor, and Talent 2025 groups working together to create a vitality we want to see sustained here in West Michigan.

1. **Old Business - none**
2. **New Business/Sub-Committee Reports**

* Professional Development: (Dave Feenstra) no report
* Awards: (Michael Eichberger) Sue K. said marketing is in place, and will continue through February. Nominations are coming in slow. Ideas are: letting the Dean’s know, and us emailing our AP groups.
* Salary & Benefits: (Jackie Rautio) no report
* Public Safety: (Michelle DeWitt) no report
* AP Luncheon: (Jim Rademaker) April 19th , Thursday. Speaker is very excited – the theme of “Laker for a Lifetime” will stick. Start marketing after the first of the year. Maybe everyone who wears the GV logo will be put in a raffle for a prize.
* AP Open Forum: (Quincy Williams) Mid-June. Still working on the dates.
* 360 degree Evaluation Committee: (Quincy Williams) Will meet again on Jan 10th: Quincy Williams (chair), Diane Laughlin, Luanne Brown, Jackie Cuppy, and Matthew Roberts.
* AP Manual Language regarding complaints and grievances: Luanne is working on scheduling a meeting. Luanne Brown (chair), Michelle DeWitt, Jackie Rautio, Scott Richardson. Will start a discussion and see where it goes.

1. **Next Meeting: January 16th, 2-4. James Moyer at 2pm, Provost Davis at 3pm. No time for business at this meeting. DEV 302E**
2. **New Business: none**
3. **General Discussion: none**