

**President's Commission on Student Centeredness**  
**Minutes**  
**November 29, 2006**

The meeting began with each member commenting on their student centeredness observations over the past two weeks.

Alice Skeens invited Dr. Jacobs to comment on the wireless recommendation which was taken to him by Alice. Dr. Jacobs explained that he would prefer to see a phased in approach as a solution because on the amount of financial trade-offs the institution would have to make in order to commit \$2.8 million to this project. Dr. Jacobs also explained that he was fairly certain that this price tag will decrease significantly as new technology is introduced in the very near future. He charged Melissa Crabtree with investigating what EIT would suggest as significant steps that we could take now such as making the most needed areas of campus wireless.

Three members of the Resident Advisor Council were in attendance to share with the group some of the student concerns that they receive in their positions. The resident advisors spoke of the limited resources that they have for floor activities. Their semester floor budget is just \$20 per semester. However, the Resident Student Association has over \$700 available for programming for which the RAs can apply. The resident advisors inquired about a movie network that they could have access to in order to show movies to a large group of people. Currently, copyright regulations prohibit anyone from showing copyrighted movies to large groups of people. Lisa Marsalak explained that she had already worked with Marketing & Communications to get access to the health science campus' movie network but it could not work. Dr. Jacobs encouraged Lisa to work with Melissa Crabtree for alternative options. The resident advisors discussed their attempts to have interactive activities with faculty and staff which have not been successful. Michele Martinez suggested that floors network with specific departments, offices or even colleges to coordinate partnerships. The growth and success of living learning communities was discussed. Kaye Patten Wallace explained that the residence halls do offer many hall-wide activities that are very successful and suggested that Commission members attend these activities in the future. Kaye will invite the Commission to the programming events.

Carol Bresnahan explained that the December student centeredness awards will be awarded before the next meeting.

Brad Bethel from the Society of Environmental Education spoke to the group about his organization's initiatives on campus to move towards a more green campus. Two of the group's ideas include a community garden and a push to purchase food that is more nutritious. Commission members shared with Brad their interest to have a more environmental friendly campus as well. Brad also shared with the Commission his organization's proposal to enter a MTV national contest to develop an on-campus community garden. The first prize award is \$25,000. The Commission expressed a willingness to assist SEE with its proposal. Michele will contact Brad for more details.

Kaye Patten Wallace invited the Commission to dine with her in the dining hall for lunch in an effort to try the food and talk to students about their opinions about dining hall food. Dr. Jacobs encouraged members to attend lunch and asked that the group be candid with their comments about their dining experience. He stated that he is prepared to look for other contracts if the food vendor is not providing a quality experience for students.

Melissa Crabtree inquired as to the parking at sporting events issue. She felt that the students should not be bussed to their classes; instead, fans should have to park and be shuttled to their event. Bill Weber stated that he would take that concern back to his subcommittee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 29, 2006.