

TO:

Student Senate unanimously approved a motion to ask The University of Scranton to accept the second Monday in October as Indigenous Peoples Day and to include indigenous peoples' culture in programming and educational efforts.

Mr. Kilner stated that there were positives and negatives to Columbus's discovery of America and the education should reflect that. Intent is not to sweep Columbus from history, but to put indigenous people in the mainframe of the story; their story has been largely overlooked.

The movement started largely in states and cities with large indigenous people populations, and has begun spreading to other cities and universities across the United States. The University of Scranton students want to be on the forefront of that movement, believing it speaks to our commitment to social justice, fits our Mission, our Strategic Plan and who we are as a Jesuit University.

**Liaison Report:**

Admissions numbers are up; project 985-995 incoming class for fall 2016

Academic quality also up

Discount rate at target

Searches

CIO and AVP Facilities posted, receiving and reviewing applications

Registrar search is in progress

Jesuit Center Director search in progress, have identified three candidates to bring to campus.

Father Quinn will soon name the Acting Provost for July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017 time period while the search to fill the position is underway.

A proposal to make Internet Security Training mandatory for certain users on campus was brought to cabinet from IT and unanimously passed. The trainin( )][9)-3(9)3(. )6(T)-8(h)6(e)-3( t)-3

A senator asked that communication regarding the Staff Compensation Plan be sent to employees to inform them of progress and the project's current standing. Ms. Tetreault said she would consider doing so.

### **Treasurer's Report (Mr. Steinmetz)**

#### *Budget Overview*

2016-2017 budget difficult to balance for several reasons:

- Smaller incoming class

- Faculty contract cost more than our budget parameters

- Have to fund faculty window plan with little surplus to absorb cost. Savings from window plan accrues over time, but funding of plan begins day one.

Pressures on the budget:

- Must remain affordable for families

- Must address both long and short term pressures

- Must generate 3-5% in revenue to retain A+ rating

Review and realignment of administrative structures to best support plan and budget  
Takes into account assessment  
Capital Campaign and Development efforts  
Preserve and stay commitment

#### Progress since January 2016

Tuition  
Develop new programs, extend successful programs to make the University more attractive (using existing funds).  
Deans, faculty, and leadership are all working together to lower the cost of instruction  
Working on reducing our annual debt service by refinancing our bond.  
Undergraduate enrollment projections are up  
Have to include adjustments made as a result of the Staff Compensation Plan

#### Questions from senate:

Is the \$200,000 set aside for the Strategic Plan controlled by the Provost?

The provost or a point person, but ultimately it's a collaborative process involving planning committees and Cabinet who will decide use of those funds through prioritization discussions. The first priority is in reallocating existing funds, rather than use new funds.

Does the discount rate stay the same for students all four years?

The average Financial Aid package covers 47% of the cost of tuition for First Year students, both need based and merit. The same percentage stays with them if grade eligible and their financial circumstances don't change.

How many incoming students can we reasonably handle?

960-1000 per year.

How is our retention rate?

Steady over the years. We've maintained an 81-90% retention rate which is outstanding compared to other institutions. This stability is a point of strength for us.

How many positions were eliminated as a result of staff early retirement plan? 15

What fringe benefits were reduced?

Reduction in fringe benefits due to the faculty contract negotiations saved \$300,000. This is a combination of increases in deductible amounts, and

premiums, trimming some features, adding deductibles for singles, increasing amount of copays, etc.

If the market stays steady for the next couple of months, refinancing our 2007 bond issue will save \$2 Million.

**Presidents Report:**