KELCE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Pittsburg State University

Kelce Leadership Council Minutes
Wednesday, August 31, 2022, 2pm, 121 Kelce

Present: Alex Binder, Maeve Cummings, Chelsey Decker Mary Jo Goedeke, Paul Grimes, David Hogard, Anil Lal (via Zoom), Sang-Heui Lee, Lynn Murray, Larry Woodward, Mary Judene Nance
Guests Present: Dan Shipp, Howard Smith

Dr. Grimes opened the meeting by explaining the intent of the newly initiated Kelce Leadership Council (KLC). All members of the Kelce Leadership Team (KLT - Binder, Cortes, Decker, Grimes, Hogard, Murray) and the Program Coordinators Committee (PCC - Weaver, Cummings, Lal, Woodward, Khan, S. Lee, Nance) comprise the KLC and will meet together one time a month during the regularly scheduled KLT meeting time on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. The Kelce General Faculty approved this new leadership format earlier this year. The purpose is to create a time and a place to improved communication and coordination between the KLT and the PCC about the daily operations of the college. Program Coordinators are then expected to carry information back to faculty in their areas.

Dr. Grimes introduced the Provost to begin discussions on the building project and other areas of interest for academics at PSU. Dr. Smith stated that the new President is on-track to help in getting the building project back on track. Dr. Smith and Dr. Grimes met with a Kelce Student Focus Group and a Kelce Faculty/Staff Focus group in order to communicate and gather information regarding the Kelce building project.

Dr. Smith touched on the following:
- He plans to meet periodically with the four colleges' leadership groups to touch base.
- Stated that it seems there is always a communication gap and he is working to be open and transparent.
- Big initiative right now is move toward central advising across the university. New central Academic Advising functions will be combined with existing Career Services and Student Success functions.
    - Kelce advising center has been a great model for the university.
    - KBOR initiative is motivation behind centralized advising at all regents' universities. Faculty Senate will be heavily involved in this process.
    - We need to keep student connected.
    - Retention problems are most likely related to the cost of attendance, as well as expectations from high school students regarding getting a four-year degree.
- RPK initiative outcomes and recommendations have not yet been determined.
- States across the country have pulled back on support for 4-year institutions – including Kansas.
- Working on an academic program plan for the university – next strategic plan will be built around this. Look at from standpoint of growth; not only to add new programs but to repurpose and prune programs no longer viable or cost-effective.
- Transition Advisory Council will begin these processes.
- HLC will be visiting this fall for re-accreditation.
- Discussions have begun on implementing year-out scheduling of classes – fall, spring, summer, so students can plan more effectively.

Kelce Project/Dr. Shipp:
- Kelce project top priority and input is needed from all constituents in order to complete the project.
- He is concerned that the building project has not been given the level of priority it deserves.
- Only $7 million has been raised for the $30 million project. Though additional dollars available through R&R funds.
- Urgency is to solve this within 3 years.
- Discussion on Plan B option.
- Downtown initiative was completely Dr. Shipp's idea.
- Provost has been asked to actively participate in process now.
- There are not funds to follow original plan – little chance of success in securing them in a timely fashion.
- Need to do something else that will work for students and deliver programs needed to grow the institution and reaffirm the importance of the business college to the success of the university.
- Convention/conference center downtown will work well with business school presence.
- More opportunities and access to funding within the state will be available if KCOB has a presence downtown.
- Everything is on the table at this point.
- Everyone was asked to think about what needs to be on the main campus and what will work best downtown.
- Upside will be increase in enrollment.

Discussion points:
- Student focus group suggested having MBA programs, professional centers, (BERC, Professional Sales Center, Micropolitan Research, etc.) new programming (entrepreneurship degree, supply chain management, retail sales laboratory, etc.) in the downtown.
- Undergraduate students need to remain connected to campus.
- Tremendous logistical issues of moving large number of students back-and-forth. New scheduling formats could help.
- New facilities attract additional enrollment – regardless of location.
- KCOB could be anchor tenant for a downtown building also housing other university functions and programs – "Gorilla Landing."
- Shared classroom spaces with city's conference center increases overall square footage available.
- City conference/convention center opens opportunity for hospitality management programs.
- Working on restructuring and improving scholarship packages especially for new students.
- The relationship with Block 22 is changing to integrate them with academics. Dr. Smith and Dr. Naccarato are meeting regularly.
- 1 to 3 match with state dollars right now is available which might inspire donors towards Plan B. (Raise $15M privately to get an additional $5M from state).
- Besse Hotel – possible student housing development; living/learning community opportunity for business students.
- KCOB really needs to maintain a home base on our historic campus – build or renovate a smaller building on-campus to complement a downtown building.
- Possible "greenway" corridor between campus and downtown to link the two.
- Building project is still a go, it has just taken a different path.
- Suggestion to target younger alums for donations (those in their 30's & 40's).
- Faculty should think about where the optimal location for them will be.
- Some faculty may have a home base and a hoteling spot.
- There will be many future meetings about building project.