PRESIDENT'S OVERVIEW

Members of the Board:

The days are getting longer and we no longer have to drive to work and return home in the dark – that is the good news. The flip side is that it has been a long winter with little sunshine so behaviors become a little bizarre this time of year. As we approach the vernal equinox that will change and life appears good again – thus the cycle of nature and higher education.

As it has been the last four years so it seems it will be again – we won’t know our budgetary fate until the legislature finds itself and bestows it’s beneficence upon us. Even the Governor jokingly speculated it might be late June before we have a budget. What we do know is the revenue projections are a bit better than they last projected, so we shouldn’t be looking at more cuts. If that is the case we will continue to fill necessary faculty and staff positions.

Our enrollments still appear strong for winter and we should meet our target projection. We are focused on student retention and eliminating barriers to success. Our DTFs are working hard to prepare recommendations for later this year. The second round of new ENDs is being reviewed. These will be ready for the Board meeting in March. We are also preparing a schedule of activities associated with the presidential replacement process that we will be discussing with you shortly.

Events for this quarter include wrapping up the basketball season. We may have both women’s and men’s teams participating in the NWAACC tournament this year. That would be a first in many years. The Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is February 23rd. The winter play is “The Play’s the Thing” (previously called Rough Magic) - a collection of scenes, songs and soliloquies from Shakespeare’s greatest plays. It runs from Valentine’s Day to February 23rd.

CAMPUS REPORTS

1. Associated Students – Stephanie Schiele
2. Faculty – Sharon Mitchler
3. Classified Staff – Paulette Crane
5. Public Information Office – Don Frey
6. Human Resources – Julie Ledford
7. Student Services Report – Bob Peters, Mike Hoel
9. President’s Report – Jim Walton