PRESIDENT’S OVERVIEW

Members of the Board:

It is beautiful on campus with the fall leaves covering the grounds. It reminds me of my childhood in Michigan where we would rake the leaves into big piles then run, jump and hide in them. Inevitably they would have to be gathered and mulched, like our landscape crew is doing now. In the end the grounds are bare, but for this moment they are beautiful.

We are in the middle of fall quarter with the holidays almost upon us and our activities turning indoors. We have had a number of interesting, entertaining and educational events with more to come. Our first play of the year starts this weekend; volleyball is winding down; basketball is revving up and the music department is practicing for the holidays.

The first rumor of a potential budget cut came out yesterday even though revenues are up for the state. That cut is based on lean management activities supposedly garnered from efficiencies implemented over the last couple of years. We have been thrown in with the rest of the government agencies by this proposal. State agency cuts were so draconian the last five years, I can’t imagine any agency not using their “efficiencies” just to maintain basic operations – another example of “what are they thinking?”

Our current enrollment is still off a little from last year. It isn’t surprising as employment picks up, yet it is troublesome in that we need to be maintaining enough FTEs to hit our state target. We are embarking on retention experiments to see if we can keep more of the students already here and recruit a few more that may have dropped out. We have a good retention committee and will be selecting Action initiatives shortly.

The student government is currently running a survey trying to determine student desires in a number of areas including everything from adding sports teams to creating a completely smoke free campus. It is a great group of student leaders.

CAMPUS REPORTS

1. Associated Students – J.R. Siperly
2. Faculty – Sharon Mitchler
3. Classified Staff – Paulette Crane
5. Public Information Office – Don Frey
6. Human Resources – Julie Ledford
7. Student Services Report – Lucretia Folks
9. President’s Report – Jim Walton