President’s Cabinet Meeting  
August 26, 2008


Also present: Brendan Horan, S.J.

Absent: Lorraine Snyder

1. Father Garanzini opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m. and Susan Malisch offered a prayer.

2. The minutes of the July 22, 2008 meeting were approved with the correction that item 14 and 16 were redundant. Item 16 will be removed.

3. The discussion moved to feedback on the Leadership Retreat with a number of comments. Some of the thoughts were: good information, but too much; the format was consistent with previous years; and the size of the group may have limited the ability to come to a strategic focus. A discussion ensued on how best to approach the five-year strategic planning process.

4. Lucien Roy presented the Speaker Policy, which has been vetted through the shared governance committees. Phil Hale indicated he is meeting with student groups to review the policy with them.


6. Fr. Salmi handed out a copy of the OP/ED article he wrote on the topic of the Amethyst Initiative. A discussion ensued focusing on the issue of binge drinking as both a legal and a health concern.

7. Bill Laird shared a copy of the new Budget Review Team structure, which will align individuals with their appropriate areas of responsibility, with an Executive Committee to oversee all of the teams. This structure will also provide an opportunity for deans to be a part of the financial planning discussions.

8. Fr. Salmi reported on the successful opening of the academic year. The student move in and the social functions were well-received. There were approximately 2,500 students and their families at the Mass of the Holy Spirit that was celebrated in the Gentile Center.
9. Chris Wiseman shared the funnel report on student enrollments. Chris mentioned that a Council on Student Success has been formed to address student retention. The group will meet monthly to review new data gathered on students transferring, etc., and they will make recommendations for improvement.

10. Chris Wiseman updated the group on Financial Aid. There is a university financial aid contribution of $95 million of which $81 million is dedicated to continuing students and $14 million to graduate students. Hardship financial awards are self-identified.

11. Donna Curin handed out the draft Board of Trustee meeting agenda for the September 5, 2008 board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.