

SUMMIT CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Board of Trustees Meeting January 21, 2017

PRESENT: Larry Berlin, Rick Derr, Academic Dean Scott Gribble, President Dave Parrish, Angie Arnold, Chuck Schmidt, Jim Wetzel, Brad Korrell, Lola Weinreis and Jason Thompson with Carpenter's Plan.

Absent: Jeff Holloway, Andy Gudahl, Jonathan Seng, Lyle Hinebauch

Meeting was brought to order by Larry Berlin.

Chuck Schmidt opened with prayer.

Minutes of the past meeting on September 10, 2016, were presented for approval with motion by Chuck and 2nd by Rick; accepted as written.

Dave distributed some materials that Kay Grote, IT/Publications Specialist, has developed that are being sent out to prospective students. A copy of online communications that has been shared with prospective students was also handed out. Question was raised about Summit having more of an online presence. One possibility raised was to advertise on web sites such as Bible Gateway. Dave said he would ask Kay to look into the cost. The question was also raised whether the decision had been made to sign up with Cappex.com for the recruiting department, as was discussed at the September meeting. After Ben investigated further, it was decided that Cappex.com would not be a good fit for Summit Christian College in its pursuit of students.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Three board members' terms expired this month: John Steele, Jeff Holloway and Rick Derr. John Steele chose to not continue to serve, but indicated he will continue to support the school in many ways, including financially and in daily prayer. Jeff Holloway and Rick Derr agreed to continue to serve. We are in need of additional board members and welcome suggestions for potential board members.

Results of the recent evaluations were presented to the board including President's Evaluation by Employees and Trustees as well as Board Evaluation and Board Self-Evaluation. It was disappointing that only four board members completed the board evaluations. Angie did point out that the area that employees rated Dave low on the President Evaluation was "Able to comprehend budgetary matters." Four employees gave a rating of N/A which brought the score down. The reason is not known but it could be that they are not aware of any work that he does put into the budget and that they are not involved. Dave did respond that the budget is complicated and difficult and he expressed his appreciation to Scott for all his work on the budget and the financial reports for the college. There were no other areas of concern on the evaluations. Jim moved that the evaluation results be accepted as presented, 2nd from Brad; all approved.

Executive Committee

Dave reviewed the Strategic Plan that everyone received in their materials before the meeting. This is a reduction of the original Strategic Plan. A consultant at the ABHE conference encouraged all colleges to have their Strategic Plan focus on as few as 3 initiatives. Most of the items previously on the Strategic Plan have been satisfactorily completed. Two areas that are included on the current Plan and are most important are recruitment and fundraising. 75% of the college income comes from fundraising. Ideally, a larger percent (over 30%) would come from our students. It was pointed out that our current rates are set specifically so students can graduate without debt. A third initiative is the Summit Bridge and a description of that program is included in the plan. The Summit Bridge is an example of synchronous learning, interaction between professors and students. Asynchronous learning is online learning at your own pace. The Summit Bridge allows the college to bring in quality professors that can teach a single class.

Also included in the Plan is a restructuring of the Recruitment Department. Positions in the department would be redefined. The current position (held by Emilie Yates) would be titled 'Recruitment & Admissions Supervisor.' A 'Director' position will be developed based on experience and education. Emilie is committed to her current position and is working on gaining more knowledge and training for her position. Jim

questioned about recruitment for the traditional student vs. recruitment for the Bridge and who is the typical bridge student? The typical Bridge student includes people who are in ministry who do not have Bible college background and people who are in leadership looking for additional knowledge. Across the board, colleges who are offering traditional programs are struggling. Some of the best recruitment for the Bridge has been college administration making churches aware of the program and what it can offer for the church and its leaders. It was pointed out that once the college is accredited the Bridge can be offered to all 50 states. Currently it is available to persons in Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado. Non-traditional students are usually coming to the college in a non-traditional way, not through the recruiting department. During February (Love month), faculty and staff will be traveling to area churches to present the college and will include info on The Bridge in their presentations. After Love Month college administration will continue traveling and sharing about the college and the Bridge. There is no time line for Emilie to obtain additional training, but there will be specific goals and education to be met. The question was raised, 'How are quotas set?' The fall semester is the main goal and where the numbers are needed. Concern was expressed for Emilie in the current position. Concern was also expressed that if we wait until fall to see if quotas are met it is too late. Administration was encouraged to hold Emilie or whoever is in the position accountable in the time leading up to the Fall Semester.

The accreditation self-study was completed in November for ABHE. It was a time-consuming process but it is in and we are waiting for their report. The decision for a site visit will be made in February at their annual meeting and that visit would take place in Fall of 2017. This fiscal year, ending June 2017, will be the year that ABHE will be looking at. Last year's fiscal year was completed on a very positive note.

Jim made the motion to approve the Strategic Plan as presented by Dave, 2nd by Chuck; approved by board.

Education Committee

Scott presented the changes to the 2017-18 Academic Catalog. The credit hour breakdown section has been changed to reflect how the classes will be presented in the fall. The academic load section was also updated. A supplement was added to the catalog to reflect the addition of Summit Bridge. Brad moved, Rick 2nd; changes approved.

finance Committee

All board members were provided with a copy of the 2015-16 audit, which needs to be approved. There were no major concerns with the recent audit. Jim moved, Brad 2nd; audit approved by the board.

The Finance Committee proposed an increase of adjunct salaries from \$30 to \$40 per credit hour. The board was reminded that in September, a large salary increase was given and Scott expressed thanks from the faculty and staff. Rick moved, Lola 2nd; the increase of adjunct salaries was approved.

WIDE HORIZONS

Concern was expressed for the Wide Horizons campaign and it was agreed that the campaign is at a cross roads. Board members stepped up, but additional contributions of only \$10,000 has come in. Some board members have yet to approach large donors they planned to contact; others are waiting for responses; some are waiting for funds to come in and some expressed a need for additional assistance in approaching potential donors. Jason did say he would be back in the Scottsbluff/Gering area February 9 and 10 and willing to assist as needed. For the next six months (to the end of this fiscal year), the college needs to raise additional \$12,000 per month. The question was raised if we need to rethink how we are approach this campaign? No question that Wide Horizons continued funding is needed to stabilize the finances of the school. The suggestion was made that a committee of three be appointed to oversee the campaign, asking John Steele to chair. At least one item to be considered is if the goal should be to fund the school year instead of Wide Horizons?

As donations are requested for the campaign, current donors are encouraged not to replace their current giving with Wide Horizons. The Wide Horizons challenge can be a good option for new donors. It was agreed that all donors for all amounts can be approached for the campaign.

The request was made that monthly phone calls with the board occur for prayer for recruitment and the Wide Horizons campaign. It was agreed by everyone that continued commitment to prayer by the board is important.

The request was also made that the Development Team participate on a conference call on a frequent basis with Jason, again asking that John Steele be asked to continue to serve. Jim so moved, Rick 2nd; board approved continuation of the Wide Horizons campaign.

STUDENT LIFE COMMITTEE

Student Life Committee did not meet.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Development Committee did not meet.

Closing prayer by Brad Korrell.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Arnold
Secretary
Summit Christian College Board of Trustees