This was the first OS meeting of the year – Nikki Nunes, newly elected OS speaker, introduced President Steen to speak about the future and planning for PSU.

A few highlights from the presentation.......

We have defined ourselves as a Carnegie Engaged University – only a handful designated as this. A University of Place – and have engagement with the region. Defining who we are is important in telling our story, marketing PSU.

Challenges:

1. Our funding is more tuition based than prior years since states are pulling back – 84% of funding comes from tuition. Even with restoration of state funding to levels from 2 years ago.
2. Enrollments in UG are down
3. Financial Aid system is facing changes

We need focused, data drive goals – such as:

1. Hybrid/online classes
2. Value added residential campus
3. Distinctiveness & a niche
4. Partnerships with orgs and community

A few things we are focusing on are:

1. Buildings-structures – for example, the All Well Center as a draw for students.
2. People and salaries – compensating/rewarding staff for efforts

Staff issues to Address:

1. Workload from unfilled vacancies
2. Salary equity across positions
3. The affordable care act – not reducing hours to avoid healthcare requirement offer.
4. Space upgrades
5. Legislative advocacy – we’ve had success with this.

Highest priorities:

1. Enrollment, recruitment, and retention - new programs are key: CRM and DegreeWorks
2. Telling our story – Marketing & Branding. Amy Barnes is the new Interim Marketing Director – will play a key role in this goal.

Finally, we a NESC visit coming up in early October – important for accreditation.
Welcoming Committee: 5 new hires –

Molly Santana – BSW physical plant
Don Lucas – BSW physical plant
Sharon Zec – Admin Asst – UG studies
Amy Rice – Information Support - Grad Studies -
Joyce Morrison

Fundraising Committee:

Brenda Clayton provided an update – the festival of trees is Dec 6th & 7th – we will need help from the 5th to the 8th. Start Planning your trees!

Faculty Observer – Kit Otto. Amusing as always 😊

50/50 was held – we made a total of $7! Woohoo!