

President's Report

for May 11, 2016 Board of Regents Meeting

Accessibility Project

As we prepare to transition to summer construction within the College, I thank Ken, James, Suzanne, Joanne and Allison for preparing everyone for this temporary move. Thank you to the entire Campion community for your flexibility and understanding as we improve the College for our students.

Financial Sustainability

In advance of Budget Day (June 1), we are preparing realistically for modest government support in light of current economic realities. This entails continuing prudence in stewardship of resources and focusing on what we do well, ie: our unique contribution to the province and beyond.

Mission and Identity

Thank you to all who helped make the Accessibility Fundraising "Give a Lift" event (April 16) and my final vows (April 17) such wonderful celebrations of our wider community. Both events were inclusive, positive events that communicated our mission and identity very well. The recent Appreciation Gala, organized by students, highlighted our faculty and staff in a very positive light.

Strategic Plan

I commend the Academic Strategic Planning committee for its fine work and all faculty and others who contributed to this essential part of the College's new strategic plan. It indicates a good overall direction and highlights some exciting initiatives. We hope to launch the plan in early Fall 2016.

Indigenous Relations

Special thanks to Robert Bellegarde, Lee Prosper and May Desnomie who offered a smudge, honour song and Cree prayer at my final vows. The Advisory Circle on Indigenous Relations will meet on April 22 to consider a draft response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission "Calls to Action". On this occasion, they will also meet visitors from Manitoulin Island (Northern Ontario), including an Ojibway elder, two Jesuits and the lay director of the Anishinabe Spirituality Centre. Five Jesuit scholastics will arrive in early May for a 7-week Indigenous immersion experience that builds on our relationships with First Nations and responds directly to Recommendation 60 of the TRC "Calls to Action".

Internationalization

Jesuit postsecondary institutions are now working on an arrangement whereby they can enter more easily into MOUs. I invite the Campion community to reflect on how we could be part of this, hopefully using our Living and Learning Community as part of such international initiatives.

Have a great summer! John Meehan, S.J.