

**Student Affairs Director Meeting
August 20, 2026**

Minutes

Present – David Bollig, Joey Linn, Amy Schaffer, Edie McCracken, RJ Schnack, Brett Meyer, Hugo Perez, Craig Karlin, Dennis King, Jon Armstrong, Kelsi Broadway, Jonathan Granberry, Chantelle Arnold, and Chris Gist

Traveling Trophy

- The Division of Student Affairs Traveling Trophy was presented to Hugo Perez, Assistant Director of Student Engagement & Belonging.
- Hugo has been appointed by Governor Laura Kelly to serve as a Commissioner on the Kansas Hispanic & Latino American Affairs Commission.
- The commission coordinates the Latino Leadership Summit in October and the Hispanic Legislative Day in Topeka. Hugo will also be assigned to committees on the commission.

VP Update

- Summer Bash
 - For those who attended, they seemed to enjoy the event.
 - More staff were missing than normal. The date of event is provided well in advance for offices to plan to have offices covered for all staff to attend.
 - SALT feels it is a priority to continue the event.
 - Feedback regarding the Summer Bash should be sent to Chris and Joey.
- Jenn Bonds-Racke Campus Visit – September 10
 - Jenn has been hired as the President for the Kansas Board of Regents. She has scheduled campus visits to all the regent schools.
 - Schedule for Jenn's visit is being finalized by the President's Office.
- Compliance & Sexual Harassment Training @ the September 17 Director meeting.
 - Joey has asked Laurie Larrick to provide training at the September 17 Director meeting.
- Daniel Little – Social Media
 - Daniel has been hired in a temporary position to assist departments within the division with their social media and marketing.
 - He is also going to work on videos.
 - Contact David with larger projects request.

Enrollment Leadership

- Enrollment Update
 - Date to date, domestic undergraduate and graduate enrollment is up.
 - No IP numbers in yet. They are projected to be down slightly.

Academic Affairs Update

- Jill plans to send an email to the university community regarding the Academic Affairs priorities for the year. An invitation will also be sent out for the 2nd annual engagement series and Conversations with Jill series.
- Dennis and Joey heard talking points on the new draft of the Digital Master Plan. Jill reengaged core faculty to revise the plan. Draft will be shared out.
- The reduced bachelorette degree program can be anywhere from 90 to 119 credit hours. Every pilot program will need approval through KBOR. Degree will have a specific name. FHSU has identified programs in social work and tech studies. Nothing will be officially approved until Fall 2027.
- This fall semester, FHSU will have their program review with KBOR. All UG and GR programs will go through the review.
- Academic Affairs will be conducting the following searches.
 - Dean, College of Health, and Behavioral Sciences will kick off next week. Jeff Briggs is retiring in January 2027. An interim may need to be named.
 - Dean, College of Arts and Humanities, and social Sciences search will start sometime during the fall semester with a projected start date on July 1. Dr. Brad Will will serve as the interim dean for the academic year.
 - Senior Director for Advising and Career Development is a revised position that Academic Affairs will be searching for. With the creation of this position, FHSU will be transitioning to be a fully centralized advising model this next year. Advisors will transition by next summer to report to the Senior Director for Advising. Position will report to Beth Spencer.
 - A search firm is being used for all three searches.
- Changes to student travel notification email was sent out to the campus.
- China enrollment numbers will be up for the fall semester.

Move-In Update

- RJ reported that 1,640 beds are filled for the fall semester and we are at 96 percent capacity.
- We had 409 students move in on Wednesday and 407 on Thursday. Over 750 residents moved in over the weekend.
- RJ thanked all the volunteers who assisted with move in.
- Jon Armstrong wanted to thank Jordan Brown from Residential Life for his care and compassion with the families during the move in.
- A post move-in meeting has been scheduled.

Student Engagement & Belonging Update

- Welcome Week
 - Events went well.
 - Block party at McMinderes was a huge success with the students.
 - Playfair was a hit with the students. Dr. Mason did the welcome.
 - After Dark was held on Friday evening.
- Back-to-School Bash – Friday, August 21
 - Toby Keith Tribute Band will perform on the Quad.
 - The event is free. Organizations will have booths for fundraising.

- March to Main – Tuesday, August 25
 - Students will meet at Picken Hall at 5:30 pm and then walk to the Downtown Pavilion where there will be a welcome at 6 pm.
 - Pizza Hut is giving out pizza; Cold Stone is giving out ice cream, and Gella's is providing root beer.
 - The first 500 students get a bag with discount codes to downtown stores.
- Back to School Picnic
 - Large turnout for event.

Financial Aid Update

- Chantelle provided a handout regarding changes to 2026-27 Financial Aid.
- Handout is attached to the minutes.

Search/Staffing Updates

- Admissions
 - Admissions has two positions open.
 - Area Admissions & Community Specialist
 - Administrative Specialist (SIP/Scholarship Services)
- FHSU Online and Military-Connected Student Services
 - Coordinator for FHSU Online Recruitment will be posted and open for 30 days.
- Registrar's Office
 - Degree Analyst position is posted.
- Financial Aid
 - Verification position will be reposted.
- Enrollment Management
 - CRM position is currently at HR and will be posted soon.

For the Good of the Order

- Save the Date - Summer Bash 2027, July 29, 2027
- Memorial Union
 - Edie thanked everyone who assisted with the Back-to-School picnic set up and tear down.
 - Student Success AIT #8 is working to get all the Affiliate school students uploaded into Workday. Currently, only students who have a resident hall contract are in Workday. Students should be able to show their school ID to receive services.
- Admissions has partnered with Wichita State University with a new recruitment collaboration called Explore Two and Discover You. An event will be held on September 15 in Salina and another recruitment event on September 22 in Topeka. Senior and transfer students will be invited to attend. A counselor luncheon for the two schools is being planned to be held in Topeka.

The next Student Affairs Division meeting will be held on Thursday, September 3.