

**Student Affairs Director Meeting
October 16, 2025**

Minutes

Present – David Bollig, RJ Schnack, Kyle Stacken, Roberto Apodaca, Brett Meyer, Kelsi Broadway, Sherri Matlock, Joey Linn, Craig Karlin, Chantelle Arnold, Joey Linn, and Chris Gist

Introduction

- President Mason has hired Eric Grospitch as a thought partner to work on a variety of strategic initiatives for Fort Hays. If departments have projects they would like Eric's assistance, they should contact Joey first. Currently Joey has Eric to provide feedback on following for Students Affairs:
 - Generating revenue avenues for the Memorial Union and Residential Life.
 - Collecting HLC data for student outcomes.
 - Potential reactivation of the University Activities Board.
 - Campus Climate survey.
- Johnny Lang was introduced as the new Coordinator of Marketing and Recruitment for the Early College Programs.

Traveling Trophy

- The Division of Student Affairs Traveling Trophy was presented to Jenny Thornton and Miranda Bond, Enrollment Management Assistants from the Registrar' Office.
- The Registrar's Office processed 2,087 applications for admissions during Free Applications days, October 6-8.

VP Update

- Fall Retention Rate 2014-2025
 - FHSU Fall 2025 retention rate of first-time students who were enrolled for the Fall 2024 semester and returned for the Fall 2025 semester is 77.2 percent.
 - Joey congratulated everyone in the division on the work we do to retain our students.
- Tuition Recommendation Committee
 - Committee was formed late last year. Grady Dixon has been asked to chair the committee. Dennis King will represent Student Affairs.
- November Fall Regent Meeting Draft Agenda – November 19 & 20
 - The Board meeting on November 19 will be virtual from the FHSU campus.
 - ELT and SLT will host a social dinner for the board on Wednesday evening, November 19.
 - Fort Hays will feature highlights of the library renovations, Stroup Hall, cadaver labs, and Global Affairs on November 20.
- KBOR CEO Call – Campus Climate
 - Board met with student government leaders at last board meeting.
 - Theme from their discussion was advising on campuses.

- FHSU needs to complete a campus climate survey this academic year. Hanover will oversee the survey.
- There will be no October KBOR meeting. KBOR will have campus visits at Emporia State and KU during the Spring 2026 semester.

Residential Life

- Safe Trick-or-Treat
 - Tuesday, October 21 from 6 to 7:30 pm
 - McMindes Hall

Tiger Day

- Tiger Day was held on October 11 with around 300 high school students. Biggest group since 2011.
- Admissions has received positive feedback.

Fall Fest

- Thursday, October 23 from 6 to 9 pm in the Gross Memorial parking lot.
- Bonfire will be lit at 6 pm to kick off the event.
- Activities include rock wall, carnival games, hayrack rides and inflatables.

Search/Staffing Updates

- Admissions
 - Interviewing candidates for the regional coordinator and marketing positions.
 - Admissions Counselor position will open next week.
- Financial Aid
 - Interviewing candidates for the scholarship position next week.
- Student Engagement & Belonging
 - Interviewing three candidates for the Assistant Director for Strategy and Operations.
 - Raneem Ghunaim has resigned as the Administrative Specialist in Student Engagement & Belonging
- Student Affairs
 - Interviewing three candidates for the Administrative Specialist position.

For the Good of the Order

- FHSU Online is partnering with Admissions to promote National Transfer Week, October 20-24, 2025. Two scholarships will be given out.
- Student Engagement & Belonging is partnering with the Education Department for Serena's Sunflower 5K and Color Run on Saturday, October 18 at 9 am outside of the Fischli Will Center for Student Success.
- KAMS Preview Day is scheduled for November 15. KAMS students are busy with competitions.
- Flu shots are available in the Health and Wellness Services Office.

The next Student Affairs Director meeting is scheduled for November 6.