

President's Report

Faculty Senate

September 9, 2013

- **Backdrop for conversations on costs for higher education**—The Dream Makers Scholarship program reflects one of many ways in which engage with the challenges of affordability and higher education. At present, some 59% of our students receive support from Pell. This link provides a nice overview of the discussions underway in Washington about the program, which obviously affects our institution and its students  
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/09/06/congressional-study-explores-costs-and-possible-changes-pell-program>
- **SACS**-- Our SACS compliance report was sent to reviewers at the end of last week. Led by Dr. Lane and Dr. Vaughn, this was a very significant effort that included work from across campus, for which we should be incredibly appreciative. There will likely be some work anticipating areas that will need more attention from our university, both before and after the completion of the off-campus report.
- **Hynes Visits**—each year we have visited academic and support departments across campus. The agenda has varied, and generally dependent on the individual departments. While continuing that, I will be asking for your help in exploring ways to continue the values that have been part of our planning and institutional activities—namely, always seeking transparency of communication; reinforcing a presumption for collaboration rather than competition across departments and programs, (each of those particularly important for resource issues such as facilities, technology, and budget);and learning continuously about the opportunities for co-production of learning (shared by faculty students, and academic support units alike).
- **President's WOW awards** As Dr. Crafton noted in the beginning of the semester faculty meeting, we want to create some ways to recognize some of the many exceptional activities of our faculty and staff. I will be asking for help in framing how these efforts of campus appreciation and support can be accomplished—and thus requests for volunteers will be extended later this week.
- **Thanks** In these challenging times, we are grateful for the continued great work and engagement of campus faculty.
- **Questions?**