

## No. 11 | December 7, 2021 | Reports

- 1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement
- Introduction & Questions with Wim Wiewel, President of L&C

<u>WW</u> - thank you for your work in student government. We appreciate the time & effort that you spend on this. This fall we had more cases than we did all of last year, but fortunately most of the cases have been quite mild and off campus. There was one case of a small group that transmitted covid with each other, but speaks to how well we have stuck to the rules. Before omicron I predicted that we would not be wearing masks at the end of the semester, but we just never knew. We have pretty good health overall and even with a new variant, I think we will do ok again. We will require everyone to be tested when you get back. We want to know where you are at and isolate anyone who is infected. How many of you have come to one of the presidential meetings? Please leave comments and when we have many voices the impact is really powerful. Having a sense of community really matters. We had three very interesting candidates and I feel confident that one of them is the right person to take over for me. You are well aware of the templeton renovation, we are excited for that. 10-15 years ago we tried to raise money for a new student center. We have raised over 8million from outside services, and will use 8 million of our money. Next we hope to renovate Stewart and odell. Their housing is in the worst shape and reflects awareness that we need to renovate the residence halls. Another project that we are raising money for is the sports complex. It is embarrassing to have port a potties as permanent bathroom facilities. Our fields have too much demand on them now.

Who has looked at the Lewis and Clark strategic plan? What we are doing is guided by this plan from 2018 that has 6 goals. That is where a lot of these ideas come from and developing the right programs, 3x3, entrepreneurship...

Our second goal is the recruitment of students. That is why we had a really large freshman class and we would rather overshoot than undershoot estimates.

Our third goal is to improve facilities

4th is diversity and inclusion. The POSSE foundation. We have had almost a 50% increase in the number of faculty of color. Almost all the faculty that we have hired are faculty of color.

Casey bierbich we will be looking for her replacement next semester

Next we would like to give raises to faculty and staff

Comprehensive campaign - we have raised 8 million in four years. A lot of it is from people who have passed away, and other times it is a gift that is paid off over many years. Most of this money is in the form of scholarships. Many of you are receiving that money.

I have been traveling to speak with donors, alumni, and that is what a lot of my time goes to. That is critical to the future of a college like L&C. to have access for a broad range of students, we need to support them with scholarships and that comes from the generosity of those before. We hope that when you leave you can become a donor as well.

The issue of the name change. I never liked ASLC as a name, it doesn't account for the grad or law school. I am not

sure that ASB is such a great name either, undergraduate student government would be a good name but that is up to you. The what is in a name committee sounds really interesting. We should be aware of the meaning of the name and the things that these historical figures did. We should know the place of that in the history of this country. In the college's history, sometimes it has been more of a focus. In 2005 we had many classes and meetings on it. I showed SLM essays about the literature of discovery. Bringing that back to people would be really good. I cannot change the name and you can't either and that is up to the board of trustees. If we change the name, no one is going to know what our college is. It takes years and years to rebuild a name. Every student who has graduated from L&C in the past 60 years, how are they going to feel if their school no longer exists.

My personal guess is that it would cost hundreds of millions of dollars. It is worth exploring and the what's in a name committee is smart to question how we process this.

I- what experiences have you had with student government that have gone really well or really poorly.

Rocky - when you ask a question, could you introduce yourself to Wim.

WW - I have dealt with the student government at Portland state since 2008. I met on a monthly basis with the presidents and I came to senate meetings once a semester. I would tell them that we could be effective if we focus on things that are within our power. Legislators are much more moved by students. And stuff to make student life better like changing the route of the buses. Changing global issues is not a good use of time. Our voice is not particularly relevant. I have had good relationships with the presidents of student government here and had great conversations with SLM.

EY - I want to thank you for raising a lot of money. I don't think it is my position to thank you but I am benefitting from financial aid packages. On average how long do academic programs take and does that require new teaching faculty for new knowledge.

WW - the length of time varies. Our Entrepreneurship program was not brought to faculty to vote on and then I came in and we got it approved. The health studies minor took less than one year to put together. We got it approved the same year that we thought of it. The data science minor took maybe two years, but those things are major. It is easiest to do an organic outgrowth of what we are doing. Then we have a new program but we only need to hire a visiting professor or something. If it is a success and we have enough demand, then the next time we have a vacancy it will go towards that program. If you can find donors that also speeds up the process.

MM - what have you heard about the bon situation? How do you feel about the bon workers asking for fair wages?

WW - most of what i know is from the pio log. The bon has been our provider for many years now. For the workers to have conversations with bon appetit, they have a contract now and those rarely get changed. This is a deal with the new contract negotiation that then would deal with us. When our contract with them is up for renewal we will consider that. Given what is going on right now with inflation, I am sure that will put upward pressure on wages that will have consequences on tuition. When inflation runs at 5-6%, We could only give faculty a 2% increase

MM - if fair wages are not met with the bon union will we keep working with them. The students have been extremely upset and this contract should be thought about by all.

WW - we have been very pleased with the bon. We have gone out for bids at times to see what other providers do but we have found them to be the best quality and the most responsive. We would see who the best provider is

SC - you said we would raise tuition by 4%, why are we focusing on the sports complex before increasing faculty wages.

WW - running organizations that are big and complex require money. Sports attract students to Lewis and Clark and help us think of new programs. We need to compete with other schools to get more students. You could ask the same things about why they are renovating templeton, stewart or odell. Students compare the quality of facilities when touring colleges. Projects like buildings are a one time expenditure, hiring more faculty or support staff is permanent. Then you are spending every year. I have raised money from donors for templeton. So we try to balance those off against each other. LC has underinvested in its infrastructure. Our backlog is greater than other institutions and we are lucky to have few safety concerns. Athletics and club sports are important to our students and you have to have facilities for those. You have to accommodate Riverdale and to get lights we have to share with the Riverdale school.

Good luck with finals, have a safe holiday!

## Feedback forms:

- Senate this semester
- Pio Route

Send to those with concerns about the pio.

SLM - I recently met with Ryan from the bon. Ryan was supportive and did not oversee the contract. That is a deal with the company and he has no say how much the workers are paid. He passes the comments and emails along to higher up people. He appreciates how much students care. The bon is in a 3 year contract that started at the beginning of 2020. They have two years left in the contract then it can be renegotiated. It includes benefits and health insurance too. The meal plan is expensive but it is important to remember the factors that the meal plan is paying for. If we change what we are doing, that might change tuition which in turn changes attendance.

OW - the bon is a nationwide caterer, and a lot of the pressure is on the school to do something about it when there is not that much that we can do. Also if the school were to negotiate with the bon as a whole, they are super competitive.

Rocky - quality wise they are known as one of the premier food service providers in the country on college campuses.

OW - They would not unionize just lc bon employees.

SLM - Ryan will tell me other ways that students can become involved and support the workers. He said to be respectful and kind to the workers.

Rocky - we were the bon's first client. Their company was created in Portland and we have a really great relationship. The bon provides services to universities, companies, and is a big organization. Nobody is perfect, and the things that they are dealing with I have seen in my office. Minimum wage in Portland has increased by 50% since I came to LC 6 years ago, the meal plans have not increased at the same rate. Costs are a real issue across the college and the money always comes from somewhere.

OW - we got a part of our room and board refunded, they didn't save any money from the school shutting down.

SC - you said that the bon was the best quality food that we could get.

OW - for the amount of people, the money, and the quality, the bon was the best option. It is a lot cheaper to mass produce food.

Rocky - I do not think that we have the best bon appetit food options, but that is also due to costs charged to students. When I am at other campuses I take pictures of their menus and look at the prices, other options are much more expensive than what we offer. When I tell colleagues that we have a contract with bon appetit, they generally tell me that I am lucky.

SC - i have had food poisoning like twice

? - There are not many gluten free options and it is really hard for my roommate. My roommate will eat pasta everyday.

OW - my freshman year there was a lot more variety. That is probably because of the supply chain shortages. We used to have a food engagement committee. Ryx last year met with ryan jensen last year with the GET app, the long lines, and covid. It was a great way to communicate with ryan. If anyone wants to start/get involved with that let me know. If you are interested in that we will follow up next semester.

## 4. Appreciation Activity

OW - i appreciate you all

## 5. Community Updates

Tomorrow there is a show at the COOP.

Isabelle - dodgeball is on friday from 5-6:30. We are doing a garage sale too to sell used sports gear for 1-\$5? mens basketball game tomorrow.