Student Senate Report to the Board of Trustees
Feb. 7, 2013

The fall 2012 semester was here and gone in a flash. I am proud to say we have transitioned as a Student Senate into the new situation presented to us as we took off running with a very new and very young group of members. We are also excited to welcome a few more new members into the mix this semester. What we have been able to do so far in this academic year is, I believe, only the beginning of more exciting things to come on behalf of the students. Here is an overview of some things we have been involved with and other things we are looking forward to.

2012 In Review and 2013 So Far

Successful Student Government Conference: In November, we hosted a student-led student government conference at the Center for Graduate Studies. More than 70 students attended from about 10 WAICU schools. All workshops were coordinated and hosted by student volunteers from participating schools. We couldn’t have hosted such a successful event without the support we receive from the Department of Student Affairs and Chartwells.

Continuing to Share the Energy at Carroll through the Energy Theme: Senators have continued to support and contribute to brainstorming activities and events for this year’s Energy theme. Last semester, we welcomed speakers and presentations on green energy, spiritual energy, and healthy physical energy. I am proud to say that we were also able to assist with the first part of this year’s Energy-related fundraiser for Ribe, Kenya, by working with Chartwells to donate more than $2,000 worth of meal swipes to assist in funding electricity in primary schools. We are hoping to have more opportunities to assist with this cause as the year progresses.

New Facilities: Student Senate always enjoys the opportunity to represent our students when it comes to facilities that will soon become a part of their daily routine. Last semester, we had students contribute input on the newest addition to Grand Avenue, Prairie Hall, both internally and externally by submitting name suggestions for the new building. We were able to watch the brand new YMCA at Carroll transition in at Frontier with senators also participating in providing input on that project as well. Senate also is always looking for ways to assist the daily student experience on campus; one way we were able to assist with that was being a part of the discussion on improvements to daily parking issues.

Promoting Cross-Cultural Experiences: This semester, we are looking to team up with other students as well as appropriate faculty and staff to continue to develop ways to promote these experiences to students. A concern we have heard is that students believe they are not aware of all of the options available to them. These are great opportunities for students, and we fully support the General Education requirement that this satisfies and are continually looking for ways to support our fellow students as they choose the experience best for them.
Technology for Students: Technology surrounds us in everything we do, so we want to make sure that our students are supported technologically. This semester, we are looking forward to supporting and partnering with the Learning Commons to promote and educate students on some of the unique resources they provide, including their new, state-of-the-art Collaboration Studios. We are very excited to see students utilize these tools that will continue to prepare them for the 21st Century world ahead of us.

In addition to these things, we are excited to have a part in other changes like more visible nutrition information for students provided by Chartwells and future housing options to be offered to students. We are always looking for ways to act on behalf of the students and to make Carroll a better place. On behalf of the students, I also want to thank you again for all the support we have felt from the Board of Trustees. It is always a joy to learn from you and put our heads together in regards to what is best for our Carroll community.