Provost's Advisory Council Summary of September 27, 2012 meeting

Bert Garza Judith Gordon Jeffrey Bloechl Maureen Kenny Lillie Albert Katie O'Dair Danny Willis Thanh Tran Betty Blythe David Quigley Fr. James Burns Katherine Gregory Harrison Kent Siobhan Kelly Stephen Pfohl Theresa O'Keefe Victoria Pineiro Vickie Monta Timothy Crawford Anthony Annunziato Patrick Byrne Larry McLaughlin James Gips James Bretzke, S.J. Alec Peck (for Diana Pullin) Anita Tien Don Hafner Cy Opeil, S.J. Tom Wall

2. Patrick Keating, Executive Vice President, joined the Council to discuss actions being taken at Boston College for the protection of minors and with respect to compliance issues. A committee has been formed to identify and review programs involving minors and to develop policies for such programs. Programs and practices will be documented, and communication and transportation plans will be developed. Also to be developed are training programs for adult supervisors. It was explained that activities in the residence halls and the Rec Plex, and those involving unaccompanied minors, will receive particular attention.

Boston College has traditionally followed a model of decentralized compliance management and accountability. Other institutions have opted for a model of centralized compliance oversight. The Provost's and Executive Vice President's offices are cataloging all compliance requirements across the University. It is expected that a University-wide committee will be convened, to provide closer oversight, establish reporting requirements, and thereby improve reporting and monitoring of compliance efforts.

3. Don Hafner, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, led a discussion about academic integrity at Boston College.

It was noted that cultural disparities--particularly those seen in the graduate student population--may lead to different understandings about academic integrity and perceptions of plagiarism.

It was suggested that an academic integrity tutorial, on the model of the one that is mandatory for all freshmen in their first semester, should be required of graduate students. However, the content of the tutorial will need to be revised significantly to be relevant for the academic practices and the graduate student population in any specific school. The School of Theology and Ministry has created a tutorial with the assistance of the eTeaching group that may serve as a model for other schools.