

UHD Faculty Senate Meeting

November 6, 2012

Minutes

Present: G. Preuss (President), T. Hale (President Elect), S. Henney (Secretary), A. Allen (Past President), C. Bachman, C. Burnett, S. Farris, J. Herrera, V. Hryniv, R. Johnson, S. Koshkin, W. Nowak, J. Schmertz, K. Switzer, J. Tito-Izquierdo, I. Wang, P. Mandell, C. Nguyen, R. Davidson, R. Beebe, D. Epstein, S. Yuan, C. Rubinson, J. Ahmad, F. Khoja, S. Penkar

Absent: P. Deo, M. Benavides, M. Duncan, J. Johnson, P. Li

October 16 minutes approved as revised with one abstention.

Announcement: SGA Representative, Katrina Carter

Walk the Vote was a big success. The event registered 1,200 students to vote. Mayor Parker spoke at the rally, and 300 students walked to the voting location.

Ed's Bayou Clean-Up will be held on November 10 from 8:30-1:30. Students, faculty, and staff will work together to clean up the area around the Bayou.

Faculty Senate President's Report: G. Preuss

1. Update from the Coordinating Board Meeting that Drs. Chapman and Dressman attended.
 - a. Confirmed the 120-hour rule for all programs. This includes a mandate for no "hidden" prerequisites.
 - b. Students may take 135 credit hours before the state stops reimbursing the university; the previous mark was 150 hours.
 - c. More stringent evaluation of low-producing majors is forthcoming. Low-producing is defined as eight students per year or 40 over five years. Programs will have a two-year grace period to redesign in a way that will increase majors.
 - d. The core curriculum designed by UHD will be submitted electronically, with a two-month turn-around. Each course must demonstrate how it fills the learning outcomes, core courses must be lower division courses, and all core courses must be transferable between institutions.
 - e. Program changes and department restructuring no longer have to go through the Coordinating Board; they are now in the hands of the BOR.
2. A "double major" policy is in the works.
3. Every other spring a Faculty Climate Survey is conducted. Senate will put together a work group to look at the survey and recommend changes to the Senate.
4. The Writing Across the Curriculum document was recently distributed.
5. Regarding the Task Forces we discussed at the last meeting, FSEC will refine charges and bring back to the Senate.
6. Senate also needs to discuss charges for three additional Task Forces (Faculty Retention Strategies, Roles and Rewards, and Faculty Research).

7. At the Executive Council meeting, Diane Summers made a presentation about our new marketing campaign. It was interesting and persuasive. She will be invited to speak to FS.

A Senator asked whether Senate is going to offer any charges to the shared governance committees.

Preuss responded that the Task Forces we are constituting will make recommendations about policy.

Guest: David Bradley, VP of Administration and Finance

FSEC requested that Dr. Bradley make a presentation on the planning and budget process at UHD. His presentation focused on four main topics (which are numbered below).

- 1) Where does UHD's funding come from (and where does it go)?
 - a. 45% tuition and fees, 25% contracts & grants (including financial aid), 16% state appropriations, and the balance from several smaller categories.
 - b. The two largest categories of spending are student access and success (79%) and infrastructure/administration (18%).
- 2) How is the annual budget developed at UHD?
 - a. It is a unit-based model.
 - b. We produce a unit plan, which then "roll up" into division plans, which "roll up into the University plan. The University plan, in turn, must be in line with the Strategic Plan.
 - c. The Planning and Budget Development Committee must fit the unit priorities into the "big picture" of all of the University priorities.
- 3) What are "Base Years" and what does that term mean?
 - a. Base Years are the summer, fall, and spring before the legislature convenes (every two years). The next session begins January 2013 for FY 2014 and 2015. Thus, the current Base Year is from summer 2012, fall 2012, and spring 2013.
 - b. How do we improve in a base year?
 - i. Grow enrollment more than other institutions.
 - ii. Change the SCH mix, because not all SCH's are the same.
 1. Develop more upper division SCH's
 2. Develop more Graduate SCH's
 - c. Moving forward, we are going toward "performance" or "outcome"-based funding.
 - i. Some benchmarks might be graduates produced, course completion rate, and/or actual six-year grad rate vs. predicted six-year grad rate.
 - ii. Next legislative session could require 10% of formula funding moved to performance-based funding.
 - iii. It was noted that our six-year graduation rate "should" be around 25% based on the algorithms produced by the state. We would not fare well.
- 4) How might the enrollment increase affect salaries?
 - a. There seems to be an understanding that salaries need to be a priority in FY 2014
 - b. In the fall, our additional revenue from enrollment increases is \$1.7 million. If we have a similar spring/summer, we will have +\$3.5 million in new base dollars.
 - c. A 4% salary increase for faculty would take about \$2 million.
 - d. Staff also needs salaries to be addressed.

Questions for Bradley from Senators included:

- How does the 7.8% enrollment increase compare to the rest of the state? Bradley: Fairly well; the average growth across other universities was 2-3%.

- Will CUPA adjustments be considered as part of salary increases? Bradley: This is being discussed. We will include an outside firm running a marketing study. We have made use of CUPA in the past.
- Is there a minimum class size model? Bradley: Faculty productivity models are very common and will probably direct many decisions about faculty. There is not necessarily one model that directs this.
- What is the classroom use rates scores based on? Are we below what we need to be on space, necessitating more buildings? Bradley: The State's Space Projection Model suggests that we are way undersized in terms of instructional space. On the other hand, our Space Utilization and Efficiency Scores (SUES) suggest that we are not efficient in the use of our space. SUES scores look at percent of classroom filled. This creates a confusing space situation for UHD. The Space Projection Model is being revised to include online and hybrid delivery.
- How is the Planning and Development Committee going to ensure faculty representatives are accountable and transparent to faculty constituents? Minutes? Website? How will we find out who the representatives are? Bradley: There have always been minutes and there is a Blackboard site. Anyone can sit in. Also, it is co-chaired by a faculty member. Committee members will be forthcoming.
- Do we have data on effectiveness of ITV classes? Bradley: We're not doing much in this area, due primarily to the popularity of online delivery.
- How much of a reality is UHV going to the A & M system? Bradley: No secret that there is some dissatisfaction in Victoria. UHV may be looking at their options.
- The Governor suggested a few weeks ago that there might be a tuition freeze; he may have come off of this position. What is Bradley's understanding? Bradley: The Governor is interested in a guaranteed tuition plan; these ensure "price certainty" over a four-year degree. UT-Dallas has had one for years. However, they are also the most expensive institution in the state. UTEP gives students an option, guaranteed or year-to-year. The guaranteed plan comes with a lot of strings (30 hours per year, 2.0 GPA, no developmental, declare a major immediately, etc.) in order to stay in the program.

Motion to adjourn passes at 3:51 pm