

Academic Assembly
May 6, 2013
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

Present: David Arnesen, Brenda Broussard, Carol Wolfe Clay, John Collins, Karen Cowgill, Tito Cruz, Lynn Deeken, Bill Ehmann, Terry Foster, Sonora Jha, William Kangas, Chuck Lawrence, Kristi Lee, Michael Matriotti, Sean McDowell, Kelly Meduna, Erik Olsen, Roshanak Roshandel, Rob Rutherford, Chris Stipe, John Strait, Jeremy Stringer, Galen Trail

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes

- I. Review of 4-22-13 Minutes
 - A. Approved
- II. Appointment to Program Review Committee
 - A. Terri Clark, College of Nursing
 - B. Approved
- III. Athletics Budget Overview (*Bill Hogan, Tim Leary*)
 - A. Budget
 1. Athletics represents approximately 4.5% of the university's FY14 operating budget, which does not include facilities maintenance and upgrades
 2. Athletics has enlisted an outside consultant to advise on a 5 year budget development proposal
 - a. Athletics budget projected at 5.3% of the FY18 budget
 - b. Projection of increase in revenue and fundraising for Athletics
 - c. Project that our average Athletics budget investment will be somewhere in the average with WCC peer institutions
 3. FY14 budget
 - a. Graduate assistantships were renewed and some money back into men's basketball
 - b. Much of the cost to renovate Connolly and other facilities maintenance is to bring us in compliance with NCAA standards and gender equity guidelines
 - c. Student scholarship is in line with tuition increase projection
 - d. Many areas in the university, including Academic Affairs, received additional money back if they projected growth
 - B. Motivation for renewing our commitment to Athletics
 1. To raise university profile through publicity and marketing
 2. To raise the student experience – there had been consistent student feedback that there was not enough happening outside the classroom
 3. To improve relationships with alumni and friends
 - C. Challenges
 1. Increased number of student athletes to about 325 but many of these students have limited athletic scholarship dollars resulting in substantial net tuition revenue
 2. More opponent games to fly to – increasing time out of class and travel expense
 3. Baseball and golf competition schedules are difficult to balance with class times
 - D. Opportunities
 1. Over one million in donations last year for Athletics and an additional 1.5 million in revenues from corporate sponsors and ticket sales

- 2. Focus on team sports, especially men's basketball, to raise publicity
- E. Measuring success
 - 1. Publicity
 - a. Dramatic increase in the number of potential student inquiries, applications, and enrollment based upon Division I visibility
 - b. Substantial increase in out of state students
 - c. Student athlete academics are strong with exceptionally high APR, GPA and net graduation rates (GSR); student athlete GPA is near or above general student body
 - d. Will also increase alumni giving down the line
 - e. All athletic teams participate in community service
 - 2. Student experience is improving – men's basketball games ranged from 100-200 student attendees per game last year
 - 3. Discussion of whether to use WCC median or mean for spending goal
 - 4. Discussion of the relationship between Division I Athletics and Academic Affairs in a time of ongoing budgetary challenges. Athletics agreed to participate in a more systematic analysis of whether the benefits of Division I athletics justify its costs, or when in the future these benefits will justify the costs.
- IV. Graduate Strategic Enrollment Plan (*Marilyn Crone, Dan Dombrowski, Bill Ehmann*)
 - A. GSEP Steering Council has met several times
 - 1. Situational analyses, strategies for handling potential challenges, development of action plans
 - 2. Listening sessions with graduate alumni and the Graduate Student Council
 - B. Enrollment plan
 - 1. Responsibilities map to chart operational process can be modified to fit each program
 - 2. Bringing graduate enrollment specialist Tom Jackson to campus on October 24
 - a. Workshop will present a model that we can use and modify as needed
 - b. Key message points and correct mode(s) of communication, including new media
 - c. Follow-up work on campus to put plans in action
 - 3. Fall graduate enrollment should increase, with anticipated recovery in fall 2015
 - C. Focus areas of GSEP budget
 - 1. Online/hybrid program delivery is a major component
 - 2. More marketing funds for academic programming, coordinated with MarCom
 - 3. Increase graduate financial aid
 - a. Impacts quality of research that students can complete (need a larger institutional discussion about how to handle incentive and recovery funds to keep student positions going between larger grants)
 - b. Have lost some employers that previously invested in continuing education for employees
 - c. Many graduate programs have financial aid at the program level from donors, others rely mostly on institutional aid
 - 4. Non-Law graduate programs have no tuition increase for next year
 - D. AcA suggestion that GSEP should take their proposal back through draft process to reconsider original proposals that were not included
- V. Conflict of Interest Committee (*Bill Ehmann*)
 - A. Proposal vetted by University Counsel and Deans' Council
 - B. Scope of committee
 - 1. STM and MRC are not included because they declined, Bill will check into why Law is not included

2. When policy was approved, was only for sponsored research conflicts, now this committee proposal seems to cover all conflict of interest at the university
 3. The proposal is unclear about whether the committee approves/advises preliminary proposals or also adjudicates concerns raised after the fact; suggest clarification about scope of committee as advisory or adjudication
 4. Proposal needs to clarify who makes appointments (deans, AcA, etc.?)
- C. Corrections
1. ORSSP spelled wrong in bullet 5
 2. Change “insure” to “ensure”
- D. Revise and refine language and circulate to AcA prior to June 3 meeting
- VI. AcA Appointments Needed**
- A. University Rank and Tenure Committee
1. Take up appointment at the June 3 meeting
 2. Member whose term is expiring is STM faculty
 3. New appointee does not have to be from STM, but not otherwise represented
 4. AcA can nominate any faculty
- B. Vote on 4 Nominees to Diversity Task Force
1. John will email a list of all the candidates and their schools/colleges with an email ballot
 2. Vote for top four and email to Rosa and John, who will tally the votes
- C. AcA Officer and Member Elections
1. Email went out for expiring members’ terms; work with school/college to determine replacements
 2. Consider nominations for officer positions
 3. Vote on June 3
- VII. Subcommittee Updates**
- A. Program Review Committee
1. Program suspension/elimination process is under revision and PRC is developing forms
 2. Four proposed program suspensions/eliminations
 - a. Will not fall under new process/forms
 - b. Instead, memos will be reviewed by PRC and submitted to AcA with a brief recommendation
- B. Faculty Handbook Revision Committee
1. Currently meeting every week, may or may not have an update before summer
 2. One issue is what system to use for future changes to the handbook