

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL 10/09/07 MEETING SUMMARY

Attendance: Jannet Vreeland (Interim Provost-chair)
Ted Batchman (Engineering)
Heather Hardy (Liberal Arts)
Charlie Bullock (HHS)
Mark Brenner (Research/Graduate School)
Kambiz Raffiee (Business Administration)
Bill Follette (Faculty Senate)
Rosemary McCarthy (Journalism)
Bill Sparkman (Education)
Dave Thawley (CABNR)
Paul Neil (Core Curriculum)
Mike Collopy (Academy for the Environment)
Bill Cathey (Vice Provost)
Fred Holman (Vice Provost)
Bruce Shively (PBA)

Announcements:

1. **Deans' Meetings.** Jannet will start having meetings with just the deans. They will be on alternate Mondays at 4 p.m. in Ross Hall 207. One topic that will be discussed at the next meeting will be evaluations for this year. Deans should provide topics for these meetings and cannot send a substitute if they are unable to attend.
2. **Reminder: Celebration of Judy Calder's Life today.** Charlie Bullock reminded the ALC that everyone is invited to the celebration beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Discussion Topics:

United Way Campaign

Cindy Pollard and Donna Ruiz from United Way were present to highlight this year's goals of United Way and encourage the Academic Leadership Council to participate and promote participation in their colleges and units.

Target 500 Update

An update concerning the work of this group was provided. It was reported that recruiting activities were being stepped up. College recruitment and retention representatives will be added to the group to assist in planning. SAT and ACT test scores were recently purchased, and they are targeting students with scores of 26 or higher. November 9 is being set aside for an event for the best and brightest students.

In addition, they are identifying at risk students currently in their first semester and working to make sure they are provided appropriate support if they require it. Using the mid-semester progress reporting system will be a first step.

There are also funds to distribute to each college to support their efforts in additional recruiting. The deans were provided more detail on what these resources are to be used for. Bruce Shively indicated the resources were being used to acquire more names, provide funding for representatives to attend college fairs, and targeted mailings. Additionally, they hope to have funds to distribute to colleges to be used to fund needed administrative assistance in the additional recruitment efforts such as student wages and travel support. He noted he hoped to distribute the funds that week.

There has been a discussion on adding students to the Target 500 group.

Faculty Senate will also be looking at the add/drop policy to see if improvements can be made.

The effort to recruit more National Merit scholars continues. They are also doing things to make sure they are not forgotten once they are here. There have been some functions to which they have been invited, but they want to find out why some aren't attending them. Regarding new National Merit recruits, right now they are targeting semi-finalists.

There was a discussion on other ways of supporting National Merit students once they are here. The availability of the USAC experience and undergraduate research grants should be promoted. The problems associated with the need for new class sections, particularly large class sections, were explored, and the status of the JTSU Auditorium conversion to a large classroom was provided. There was a discussion on the impact of new recruiting efforts on the competition between colleges as well as covering classes needed for the additional students recruited.

Bruce Shively provided an excerpt page from a list of 1,000 Nevada students who have 26 or better on their ACT or 580 or better on each of the math and English verbal scores in SAT. These are students who have not sent their scores to UNR. The list also showed the students' academic interest. This file was to be electronically distributed to deans. A coordinated contact effort will need to be implemented. Steve Maples has asked (1) that he be contacted if a student has indicated he/she does not wish to be contacted further and (2) that they receive contact efforts and information to be entered into the Recruitment Plus database.

Other recommendations arising from the discussion were:

- We need to “court” high school counselors who are advising students not to go to school in Nevada.
- We cannot lose sight of the need to increase graduate student enrollment as well, but a critical piece to doing this is more graduate assistantships.
- We need to get data from the school districts.
- A script might be utilized to narrow down students' interests.
- We need to prioritize these student lists.
- We need to stop using the term “suspect.”
- We might conduct a pilot survey where we get a small recruitment group together and contact a small sample of students to determine how to best use the list of 1,000. Bruce

will meet with college recruitment coordinators to accomplish this. Deans will brief the coordinators in advance of this meeting.

Athletics, Academics and Compliance

Jean Perry was present to provide an update and indicate how deans might help in their efforts to ensure student athletes have the tools they need to succeed. She described the Athletics Excellence Banquet where over 180 students are recognized for a 3.00 GPA or higher. She noted that historically not more 10% of these students are special admits. They have the same expectations of these students as with other students and must also abide by NCAA rules and regulations. Because of their situation, these students must have higher levels of time management, and they seek to help them with that as well.

Jean asked the deans to encourage their faculty to help as much as possible by giving students the consideration and accommodation they need to not only participate in sports but succeed academically. Travel is a big issue, and faculty need to inform them as to what they expect so athletes can plan and accommodate. She noted that one particular problem was the response rate to progress reports. It is quite low presently, and many times they receive the report too late to help a student. In closing, Jean indicated she is available to meet with faculty and/or advisors if they have questions on working with student athletes.

The new Student Athlete Academic Center is under construction, and they expect to move to their new quarters in March 2008.