

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

March 24, 2009 MEETING SUMMARY

Attendance: Marc Johnson (Provost)
Heather Hardy (Liberal Arts)
John McDonald (Health Sciences)
Greg Mosier (Business Administration)
Jerry Ceppos (Journalism)
Karen Hinton (Cooperative Extension)
David Lupan (UNSOM)
Manos Maragakis (Engineering)
Jeff Thompson (Science)
Bill Sparkman (Education)
Charlene Hart (CABNR)
Janita Jobe (Library/IT)
Marsha Read (VPR)
Elliott Parker (Faculty Senate)
Fred Holman (Extended Studies)
Bill Cathey (Vice Provost)
Jannet Vreeland (Vice Provost)
Paul Neill (Core Curriculum)

Announcements:

1. Jannet Vreeland asked the deans to submit to Elaine Casey any student college awards that they would like included in the commencement program. This should be done by the end of the first week in April.
2. Karen Hinton provided a handout detailing various faculty collaborations between UNCE and other University departments. She noted additional copies were available upon request.
3. Elliott Parker noted that the Faculty Senate Executive Board had decided to send the lecturer promotion standards draft to a faculty committee for input.
4. Elliott Parker was congratulated on being the recipient of the Regents' Academic Advisor – Undergraduate award for 2009.
5. The annual Scripps Dinner is being held on March 31. Edith Lederer of the Associated Press will be the speaker.

Discussion Topics:

Budget Update

The provost announced that the system institutions had received notice over the weekend of needed information for the NSHE budget hearing on the 27th. More specific information and plans from the institutions at the 2006 funding level was required. The provost noted that this

represented a 20.7% reduction for UNR. He shared the institution's plan for responding to this request in a way that would not cause panic on campus. This response will include details on what has already been done as well. The deans were asked to be ready to maintain calm in the wake of this report.

Gateway Courses, DFW

The provost began this discussion by noting that there is evidence that early warning of students in "gateway" courses who are in danger can help in retention efforts. The definition of what is meant by "gateway" courses was explored. It was noted that early warning would be at approximately the 4th week, while mid-semester reporting was typically the 6th or 7th week. There was a discussion on how faculty are currently using the mid-semester program report system. Paul Neill reported that the participation in the reporting system was reasonable in the core areas but noted there were still some obstacles to be overcome. Elliott Parker indicated he would take the topic back to the Faculty Senate's Academic Standards Committee. One problem is the preference of some faculty in using Web Campus for keeping students informed, while the mid-semester progress reporting system uses CAIS. For instance, Web Campus uses a student's preferred e-mail, while CAIS uses a student's UNR e-mail. Additional courses where some sort of early warning system would be helpful were identified. These include courses that have a high rate of DFW, courses that are critical in building a foundation for future courses, and courses that can seriously delay graduation/program completion if a student fails it.

Course Fee Accounts

The provost provided each college with a handout showing the course fee account balances over three years for their college. Jannet Vreeland, Christy Sireika and Bruce Shively will be scheduling a meeting with each of the deans and college budget officers to review their respective lists. In the meantime, deans were invited to come to the provost's office to review the historical records for the various course fees in their college. The various things to be examined and the process going forward were discussed.

Federal Earmark Proposals

The provost announced that decisions on the University's earmark proposals were made by the provost, president and director of government relations. Those proposals that were chosen are now in the hands of the lobbyists and are being funneled to Nevada legislators. Notices regarding those proposals going forward and not going forward will be sent by the provost in the next few days.

Strategic Plan

The first draft of the strategic plan is done. The provost stated that president is reviewing it and that he would be passing it along to the deans and Faculty Senate chair and co-chair for their review over the next few days. The provost asked for any initial input prior to Monday. Following this, the Faculty Senate will send the plan out to faculty for their review and comment over a two-week time period, and then a committee process will be implemented to discuss the points in the plan. This committee will consist of the deans and other faculty identified by Faculty Senate.