

Faculty Senate/PAAG Meeting
Wednesday, April 2, 2014

President's Academic Advisory Group (PAAG)

President Trauth, Provost Bourgeois, Assistant Provost Opheim, Vice President Nance

Senators: Agwuele, Bell-Metereau, Blunk, Cavitt, Conroy, Covington, Czyzewska, Feakes, Furney, Hindson, Jimenez, Payne, Weill

Guests: Moonis Ali, Kristin Ploeger, Senate Liaisons; Robyn Diaz, Library Liaison; Tom Grimes, Journalism & Mass Communication; Kelsey Bradshaw, University Star

Financial advisor position request, CFP, VP Bill Nance

- The Retirement and Benefit Programs committee in consultation with HR recommended this request. HR could provide administrative support and an office for an advisor, but administration would have to allocate funding (about \$35,000 for a couple of days a week).
- The university might use one-time funding for a pilot. The university is looking at possible staff positions. In fiscal 2014 the university was capped at the level of fiscal 2013, not including enrollment growth.

NCAA issues, President Trauth

- Some student athletes were judged to be full-time university employees by the National Labor Relations Board.
- Court ruling will have many court appeals, which will take years to reach the U.S. Supreme Court. Governance model could allow some schools to provide more funding than schools without fiscal resources. Equity across Division 1 pulled funding down to lowest-funded schools, and value rose as television contracts were renegotiated. NCAA makes money from basketball tournaments, and restrictions may allow more funding for athletes.

Affordable Care Act & pending revisions to Fair Labor Standards Act, VPFSS Bill Nance

- HR, faculty records, provost's office, graduate college are meeting to understand issues and impacts of ACA.
- Fines will probably not apply to student workers, stipends, etc., but could affect graduate assistants. Departments will monitor working under 20-hour limit.

Outsourcing, VP Bill Nance

- Outsourcing is a constant consideration because of state pressure to lower costs.
- Security is a concern for some faculty.

Update 2012-2017 Strategic Plan & Research Goals, President Trauth, Provost Bourgeois

- The Provost reviewed the menu of metrics for attaining National Research University status.

- Restricted research expenditures (\$21 million current; university needs \$45 million in grants, federal funding, etc., exclusively for research); ten-year goal
- Strategic plan for research is completed, awaiting posting on website
- Other metrics, such as percentage of students in top 25% of graduating class
- Current endowment \$140 million needs to be \$400 million (about ten years)
- University would need 5 Nobel prize winners or members of preeminent academies; 7 or more Guggenheim; NSF career award recipients; or Pulitzer prize winners; university needs to nominate faculty, look at Fulbright scholars, etc.
- Graduation rates for doctoral students go ten years back. It may take eight to ten years to meet target (6 optional criteria), with 200 PhDs per year not feasible.
- Phi Kappa Phi honor society, research library
- Senator asked if the university is addressing key research priorities such as energy, sustainability, oil industry, supply chains, water, the environment, etc.

Use of student computing fee for Round Rock campus: University spends as much or more on IT support in Round Rock as in San Marcos.

PAAG follow-up

- Infrastructure issues
- Senate will talk about environmental issues with Juan Guerra
- Deferred maintenance
- Outsourcing (AVP for facilities); as custodians retire from university system

Information and Follow-Up Items

- Senate elections update: first round closes Monday; goal is to have new senators attend before May 7, so a quick turnaround is necessary
- UPD assessment of services survey responses due 4/4; alert liaisons
- Bobcat Pause, LBJ Student Center, 6 pm, 4/9; senate may adjourn early
- Link on summary document for chairs available, without comments, not posted by faculty senate yet; deans are scheduled for release in the fall
- Campus environment assessment survey responses due 4/10; remind faculty
- Perceptions of administrators survey responses due 4/18; remind faculty
- Adjunct faculty representatives to University Council discussed.

Senate moved and approved authorizing Adjunct Faculty Committee chair to approve AFC liaison appointments in consultation with senator or liaison from that department.

Part-time Faculty Excellence in Teaching Awards, Feakes

- Faculty expressed appreciation, with 40 nominations and all colleges represented

University Lecturers Committee funding recommendations were accepted.

University Research Committee report, Conroy, RTA

- Senate discussed the URC recommendations.

Minutes of 3/19/14 were approved as amended.

6:03 Adjournment