

# PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING

March 19, 2013

## MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Austin, Terry Berg, Lee M. Colaw, Ellen Robertson Green, Russell Lowery-Hart, Paul Matney, and Danita McAnally

### OTHERS PRESENT:

Brenda Sadler

**Core Values: Integrity + Innovation + Teamwork = SUCCESS**

### Discussion:

**COMMUNITY REPORT CARD** – Chrystelle Noakum, student from Cameroon who is a pre-pharmacy major, gave an outstanding testimony regarding coming to Amarillo College and how Social Services at AC has helped her. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation Grant provided funds to enable AC to hire a Social Services Coordinator. Amarillo College falls about average in demographics, poverty, and student success in the state, but Texas is 46-51% in the United States.

**BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION INTEGRATED PLANNING AND ADVISING SERVICES (IPAS) TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS** – The grant application will be submitted March 22. If received, AC will receive \$100,000 over two years. We will purchase an e-advising module for students. This module will furnish a list of classes and schedules; and will keep students on track. Ellucian devised this solution. The new name of the module is “student self-service.” There is a plan in place with BlackBoard and GradeBook; it could take up to a year to get totally up and running. It was necessary to provide online students the same advising opportunities as other students.

**CITY OF AMARILLO INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNTS (IDAS) GRANT APPLICATION** – The city and Amarillo Area Foundation will partner with Amarillo College on this grant; AC will serve as the key educators. Most AC students could use these funds; some will be able to use for housing. The grant will serve between 50 – 60 students. The total of the grant is \$150,000 plus a local match.

**STUDENT FOCUS GROUP RESULTS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER** – Austin and Lowery-Hart met with eight students on February 18. The students were given a disposable camera; they were asked to walk around campus and take photos of areas they like and dislike. Campus areas students love included: homey spaces with comfortable furniture; open private places; efficient areas with technology set-ups which enhances productivity; and liked the lobby spaces connecting the Byrd Building and Parcels Hall. Spaces students hate included: the tile walls and fluorescent lighting; cramped buildings; uncomfortable patio furniture; CUB and library basements because of weak technology signal; and the “vendatorium” area of the old cafeteria. Student suggestions for the first floor CUB included: offering a coffee/pastry station; better lighting and flooring; a stage; televisions; and flexible furniture arrangements. Suggestions for the outdoor space between the CUB and library included: seats and tables that are comfortable; and overhanging shades/covering. On the first floor of the library students would like to designate a space as a learning/study area; a

help desk in front; more technology stations; access to big boards (either white boards or glass to write on); tutoring with space similar to the Math Outreach Center; and cubicles for privacy but open enough for tutoring. The next step is for Austin and Lowery-Hart to meet with Bruce Cotgreave and then contact Shiver-Megert.

**TUITION AND FEES** – The question was broached as to why the administration believes tuition and/or fees should be raised. Tuition was increased 2012-2013: 10% for in-district, 9.5% for out-of-district, and 6.6% for out-of-state. From all the state budget proposals and numbers the Business Office has run, it appears that AC will have \$2.685 million less in revenue for the 2014 budget; it seems that a tuition and/or fee increase may be proposed to the Board at the March 26 meeting. Expenses for the coming year include an increase in fringe benefits which are going up \$522,447 due to health insurance and retirement costs. This year we used \$4 million from reserves of which \$2 million went to the Hereford Campus. Budget priorities for 2013-2014 include funding student success initiatives: expansion of tutoring services; Career and Employment Services; Social Services Coordinator; and scale-up First Year Seminar course. Areas to offset significant reductions in state appropriations include instructional formula (4%); group health insurance contributions (41%); and retirement contributions (48%). Health insurance premiums will increase \$400,000. Unfunded state mandates for individuals with tuition breaks totals \$756,000.

After much discussion regarding various scenarios of tuition/fee rate increases, Colaw moved, seconded by Austin to increase the general fee by \$3/CH; plus the out-of-district fee by \$2/CH. The motion carried. McAnally moved, seconded by Green to increase the dual credit fee from \$40 to \$50/CH. The motion carried with Lowery-Hart opposing.

### **Announcements:**

- The Power of the Purse Luncheon will be held on April 17 at 11:30 a.m., Amarillo Civic Center Heritage Ballroom; proceeds benefit SiM Central.
- The U.T. Harrington Fellows luncheon will be on April 10 at the Amarillo Country Club.

Next meeting: April 2, 2013

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