

PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING

October 16, 2012

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Austin, Terry Berg, Ellen Robertson Green, Russell Lowery-Hart, and Paul Matney

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lee M. Colaw and Danita McAnally

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brenda Sadler

Core Values: Integrity + Innovation + Teamwork = SUCCESS

Discussion:

THE \$10,000 DEGREE – Two years ago Governor Perry promoted the idea of offering four college degrees for \$10,000. Matney said Angelo State and UTSA are offering some degrees for \$10,000.

GUNS IN CLASSROOM LEGISLATION – Matney believes the legislation to allow guns in the classroom will pass. Texas Association of Community Colleges has adopted the stance that this legislation should be controlled at the local level. If the guns in classroom legislation passes, the Amarillo College Board of Regents will be in charge of any decision made for the college.

ENERGY EDUCATION PROPOSAL – Matney, Berg, and Cotgreave met with the two representatives and need to make a decision as to whether Amarillo College goes with their proposal. If it is determined to hire this company, there is a clause in the contract that indicates AC can terminate after 60 days, but we would owe money for the rest of the year. An individual would need to be appointed as the point-of-contact person; Energy Education suggests appointing a college employee to this position. More discussion is needed to make a decision.

VISTA COLLEGE PRESENTATION – Joe Wyatt, Communications Coordinator, has been researching Vista College programs. Vista has asked the Board of Nursing to begin an Associate Degree Nursing program to El Paso. Employers are approaching Vista for medical assisting students who have completed their program; Amarillo College does not offer this program due to the LVN program. Amarillo College has 558 enrolled nursing students with 1,000 declared nursing majors. Wyatt presented a PowerPoint presentation. Ten years ago there were 365,000 enrolled in four proprietary schools; there are 2 million today with a drop-out rate of 60%. Four out of 15 proprietary schools in the US make exaggerated promises concerning jobs after graduation. Thirteen percent are enrolled in for-profit schools and end up with a huge debt without a diploma. Ninety-six percent of students who enrolled in for-profit schools had to take out loans to attend. There are many defaulted loans. Vista's fall enrollment has doubled. The local proprietary schools include Vista College and Milan Institute. Students are seeking out these schools to complete their programs quicker but at a higher cost. The tuition/fee comparison for a medical data specialist degree: \$2,860 – Amarillo College; \$24,025 – Vista College; and \$12,056 – Milan. It is critical that we begin offering various scheduling options. The advantage for AC is for the same investment the student will make more money. Our medical programs are working on making schedules available

for students; the East Campus programs need to follow suit. We need to begin offering diverse scheduling options; accelerate completion rates; offer easy processes; and build on student careers.

BUDGET RETREAT FOLLOW-UP – Matney distributed a handout of bullet points from the Cabinet Budget Retreat. Many items on the handout addressed affordability, student success initiatives; leadership; becoming strategically leaner as the “new normal;” transitioning to technology independence and cost efficient printing; community support; achieving significant energy savings; determining efficiencies in branch campuses; developing long range planning for tuition and fees and tax rate; and tracking percentage of state reduction in last ten years. Berg distributed a table of employees who are eligible to retire as of September 1, 2012; August 31, 2013; and August 31, 2014 and the amount of payout per employee.

Announcements:

- Matney said at the October 23 Board meeting the item regarding East Campus property will be discussed in open session. No decisions have been decided. An agreement will be developed by legal counsel and presented at a November Board meeting.
- WTAMU is asking for a Tuition Revenue Bond project in the amount of \$15 million to build a Amarillo Center in downtown Amarillo.

Lowery-Hart reported on the DOL grant which the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board asked Amarillo College to submit an application. The purpose of the grant is to create accelerated programs; four on East Campus and several on West; and to extend course redesign. Amarillo College was chosen as the Texas State-Designated Grantee for the TAACCCT grant program. This grant targets poorly prepared students. AC has piloted a similar project through a THECB Adult Basic Education Innovation Grant for Certified Nurses Aid training. The pilot was successful and expanded this fall to a few programs on the East Campus. Amarillo College will work with Honolulu Community College as they have already received the grant.

Next meeting: November 6, 2012

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