

Vice President's Council
September 24, 2008
Summary Notes

Members Present: Paul Matney, Robert Boyd, Bill Crawford, Daniel Esquivel, Toni Gordy, David Hernandez, Judy Johnson, Patsy Lemaster, Jerry Moller, Sheryl Mueller, Ed Nolte, Lou Ann Seabourn, Jack Stanley, Renee Vincent; Carol Moore-recorder

Members Absent: None

Also Present: None

Announcements:

- Communication has been identified as a problem on campus by our recent positioning study. College Relations will begin to distribute a quarterly electronic newsletter titled "Plugged In".
- Matney encouraged Council members to attend and participate in the Common Reader project. Rick Bragg will be here on October 7.
- Hernandez surveyed some of his classes as to why students are enrolling more in online courses. They are more comfortable with the technology more than they are concerned with transportation costs, etc.
- If you send large bulk mailouts, be aware that your department will be charged .42 for each piece of returned mail
- It is not acceptable, particularly at the beginning of the budget year, to transfer funds from the faculty professional travel pool to supplies.

Dr Jones Update

The Cabinet has been providing meals to Dr. Jones and his family this week. When Paul delivered food Dr. Jones was having a good day and Paul was able to spend time with him. Although the family is private in the manner they are dealing with his illness, Dr. Jones remains interested in the activities at AC. Dr. Jones is no longer receiving treatment, but is receiving pain management only.

Board of Regents Meeting

- McAnally updated the board on the Strategic Plan
- There was a very impressive virtual presentation of the proposed West Campus Nursing/Dental Health building

- Damaris Schlong gave a presentation on the PRO Tour
- Stanley and Matney gave a presentation on the Renewable Energy-Wind program
- Status report on the AC Benefit Plan

Wind Energy and Machining—Stanley & Nolte

Stanley is working on the program packet to submit to the Coordinating Board for the new Renewable Energy-Wind program. AC has met with industry and other educational institutions and received support for the program and possible partnerships with WTAMU, Clarendon College and Frank Phillips. The BOR approved the pursuit of the program and the proposal must be submitted by the end of September. We hope to receive approval by the end of the year and offer courses by the Spring 2009 semester.

Nolte is working to reinstate the Machining program and has an industry meeting scheduled for September 25.

PRO — Pursuing Real Opportunities – Launch Nov. 11 @GNCPA

Matney encouraged members of the Council to attend the official launch of the PRO activities on November 11. Many members of the Council attended the initial tour of Friday, September 19 along with personnel from AISD. The main impetus of this project is to create a qualified, skilled workforce in the Amarillo area. The initiative is an excellent opportunity for Amarillo College to provide training. We MUST partner with AISD and work together to provide streamlined training for students to become skilled in the workforce. Matney will do whatever is necessary to encourage and develop partnerships between AC faculty and AISD. All faculty must be brought on board as we move forward and we must develop ways to foster student pride and to value the associate degree.

Southwest Seminar on Great Teaching; Taos, NM; Oct 23-25—Lemaster

Lemaster indicated there have been no completed applications for the trip submitted to her office. Division Chairs may need to encourage faculty to submit an application. For faculty who attend the seminar, library staff have offered to engage students during class time rather than give their students a walk. Although the initial announcement required faculty to have been employed 3 years, Matney asked that requirement be waived in order to get 2 faculty to go and extend the deadline to October 2.

AC Foundation Funds for Student Emergencies

\$1.8 million has been awarded in scholarships to more than 4,300 students over the last three years. The AC Foundation also provides emergency funds to students who have problems in mid-semester. Council members need to pass information to all employee groups in their division to encourage students to seek financial assistance before dropping courses.

Texas Tech/AC Meeting – Moller

Paul Matney, Jerry Moller, Cherie Clifton, Bob Austin and Lynda Barksdale met with Dr. Shonrock and TTU Regent Dr. Bob Stafford to discuss ways of enhancing transferability to TTU. Both sides are interested in opportunities to improve student access to Tech. One possibility might be for TTU to host events targeted at specific AC student groups (i.e. engineering) to encourage transfer to TTU. Bob Austin will act as the coordinator between the institutions. The 2+2 approach is also a good option. Although we don't want Tech to teach lower level courses in this area, we do need to develop articulation agreements.

Equipment Replacement Task Force – Moller

John Chaka replaced Ken Pirtle on the Equipment Replacement Task Force; he is a faculty representative in addition to Jerry Moller and Duane Lintner. In the past the institution ordered approximately 90-100 computers per year. In 2009, 759 desktop, 73 laptop computers, 63 printers plus miscellaneous equipment will be purchased based on the equipment replacement plan totaling approximately \$2 million. The process will continue through 2012 in order to update all equipment on all campuses. Although the inventory and implementation has been tedious process, after the initial 3 year implementation, the process will be streamlined and much easier to maintain. Computers have already been ordered and the first deployment will be to East Campus followed by Business and Industry Center. The committee must determine where the most critical needs exist as the new equipment is purchased, and develop a distribution schedule.

Nolte is the division rep on the IT Council. The committee is still working to develop policy.

2009 Academic Technology Equipment Purchases

The Perkins Basic Allocation Budget was sent to the IT Council and equipment on the list was approved. Although the equipment has been approved, division chairs must still submit a requisition to order the equipment and include Terry Berg and Laura Grandgenett on the approval list.

TSTC New Training Model (Beachheads)—Dr. Ken Tunstall

TSTC Vice-President Dr. Ken Tunstall visited with Matney last week and shared the concept that TSTC no longer needs/wants to be funded based on contact

hours. The TSTC schools are thought of as the primary workforce education providers in Texas by the state government. If a company wants to bring industry to the area and needs training, TSTC will work with area community colleges to develop training and allow the colleges to receive the contact hour reimbursement. The new model will be presented to AC this semester.

WECM Course Ranges—Department Chairs and Program Directors

We have some programs that are not within the WECM course ranges. It is up to department chairs to check current approved courses each year to ensure that contact hours are within approved ranges. In the current financial climate, we cannot afford to lose funding.

Last Printing of Class Schedule—Spring 2009

Last year the Council voted unanimously to eliminate the printed schedule. The Spring 2009 will be the last semester the schedule will be printed. Matney, Austin and Green plan to meet with advisors to discuss options to address their concerns; Matney may ask members of the Council to attend the session. The advisors may need multiple screens and faster computers to allow them to advise students without relying on paper schedules. If we no longer print schedules, we need to apply saved funds to advertising.

WTAMU Talks Transfers

Matney forwarded an email to Council members regarding WT's Transfer Talk electronic newsletter.

Purged Students Fall 2008 (14 percent)—Ideas?

It is unacceptable to purge 14% of registered students in August. What are some things we can do to help? How many re-registered after the purge? Did they get jobs? Gray suggested that everyone have more information and a better understanding of the Financial Aid process. Casey McGee on the second floor of the library is prepared to assist students in the FAFSA process. Can we offer financial aid seminars in the evening? Can we require a small "down payment" when the student registers?

Procurement Care Procedures

Matney reminded the Council of the procurement card procedures. Everyone needs to be diligent in their compliance with the procedures.