MEMORANDUM
February 1, 2010

TO: Academic Council*

COPY TO: David Daniel
Hobson Wildenthal
Andrew Blanchard
Calvin Jamison
John Wiorkowski
Brian Berry
Michael Coleman
Austin Cunningham
George Fair
Serenity King
Abby Kratz
Dennis Kratz
James Marquart
Bert Moore
Hasan Pirkul
Myron Salamon
Mark Spong

FROM: Office of Academic Governance
Julie Allen, Academic Governance Secretary

SUBJECT: Academic Council Meeting

The Academic Council will meet on Wednesday, February 3, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the Osborne Conference Room (ECS South 3.503). Please bring the agenda packet with you to the meeting. If you cannot attend, please notify me at vicki.carlisle@utdallas.edu or x6751.

Attachments

2009-2010 Academic Council
Beron, Kurt
Cantrell, Cyrus
Cordell, David **
Huxtable-Jester, Karen
Kieschnick, Robert
Leaf, Murray *
Miller, Dennis
Redman, Timothy

*Kao, Diana – Student Government President

*Speaker
**Secretary
AGENDA

ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
February 3, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER, ANNOUNCEMENTS & QUESTIONS  DR. DANIEL

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA  DR. LEAF

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
   December 2, 2009 Meeting  DR. LEAF

4. SPEAKER’S REPORT  DR. LEAF

5. FAC REPORT  DR. LEAF

6. DRAFT – STRATEGIC PLAN FOR COORDINATING BOARD  DR. DANIEL

7. FACULTY FITNESS FOR DUTY POLICY  DR. LEAF

8. DRAFT – CHARGE FOR SENATE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE  DR. LEAF

9. ADJOURNMENT  DR. DANIEL
UNAPPROVED AND UNCORRECTED MINUTES

These minutes are disseminated to provide timely information to the Academic Council. They have not been approved by the body in question, and, therefore, they are not official minutes.

Academic Council Meeting
December 2, 2009

PRESENT: Kurt Beron, Cy Cantrell, David Cordell, Karen Huxtable-Jester, Murray Leaf, Tim Redman

VISITORS: David Daniel, Hobson Wildenthal, Serenity King

1. CALL TO ORDER, ANNOUNCEMENTS & QUESTIONS

Dr. Daniel called the meeting to order. There were no announcements or questions.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Dr. Cantrell moved to approve the agenda as circulated. Dr. Beron seconded. The motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Cantrell moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2009 Meeting as circulated. Dr. Redman seconded. The motion carried.

4. SPEAKER’S REPORT—DR. LEAF

1. Scholarship Committee: Speaker Leaf reported that he had communicated with Liz Salter about her resignation from the Scholarship Committee. They agreed to meet after Thanksgiving since Speaker Leaf will be out of town for rest of this week. Speaker Leaf reported that he had also spoken to Tracy Rockett, and will speak to the present Chair, Doug Eckel, concerning Tracy Rockett’s possible membership on the committee as soon as Eckel is available. He is currently on sick leave. Since the committee is made up of Associate Deans Dr. Rockett cannot be appointed unless the School of Management Dean Hasan Pirkul designates her as a member. The Dean does not wish to do so. Speaker Leaf still doesn’t know what happened in the Scholarship Committee, but he noted that it should not be act contrary to the approved bylaws.

2. Budget Committee: The problem has been to find a way to plug it into the budget cycle in a meaningful way. Speaker Leaf reported that he had spoken to Marty Baylor, the Associate Vice President for Budget and Resource Planning about this, and we can do it by linking the committee to his office and having him be RUO. There was discussion regarding terms for committee members. It was also noted that the Committee’s purpose was to influence academic and intellectual priorities in the budget rather than to try to dictate to administrators. Speaker Leaf said that he would write the charge accordingly unless there was objection. There was no objection.

3. Undergraduate catalog: There continue to be problems in making changes to the upcoming program descriptions. Dr. Cantrell can elaborate. This may require a separate discussion with the Registrar in the
Senate, but for the moment those concerned seem to be working it out. It is related to the new software, but not just an IR problem.

5. FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT—DR. LEAF

Speaker Leaf described discussions on the System Exigency Task Force and the proposed changes to Regents’ Rules. The definition of faculty being considered includes those on permanent faculty appointments or having six or more continuous years of service. However, it was also noted that, as a practical matter, non-tenured and non-tenure-track faculty would probably be terminated prior to the triggering of the financial exigency policy action. The definition of financial exigency specifies that it must be bona fide, campus-wide rather than specific to a department or program, and not manageable with reserve funds. Speaker Leaf indicated that he had asked that no recommendation go forward until after the January meeting of the Faculty Advisory Council.

6. DRAFT - CHARGE FOR THE STRATEGIC PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE & APPOINTMENT OF INITIAL MEMBERS

The Council discussed the charge briefly. The main concern was with the membership, in view of the short time in which the President would need feedback for his response to the Coordinating Board on the Emerging Universities initiative. Accordingly, Dr. Cantrell moved to place the discussion on the February Senate Agenda, and in the meantime to have the Council itself serve as the interim planning committee to advise the president. Dr. Beron seconded. The motion carried.

There was additional discussion of the wording of the charge and of the membership of the permanent committee. Dr. Leaf asked the Council members to be sure to read the strategic plans for the several schools, which will be posted on the Senate website if they are not already there. If possible, we will have another meeting, as the planning committee, before the beginning of the Spring term or as soon thereafter as possible.

7. AUTHORIZING COUNCIL AGENDA COMMITTEE

Since we will not have a Council meeting in January, Speaker Leaf called for a motion to authorize the agenda committee of the Council (the Speaker, Secretary, and President) to add items to the January Senate agenda if necessary. Tim Redman made the motion. Dr. Beron seconded. The motion carried.

8. NEW POLICY: CAMPS & CLINICS

Serenity King discussed the new policy on camps and clinics. Dr. Cantrell moved to place it on the Senate agenda for January. Dr. Redman seconded. The motion carried.

9. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES POLICY

Serenity King discussed the amendments to the university policy on alcoholic beverages. This is to clarify who the policy applies to and who it does not apply to. In addition to events on campus, it applies to university administrators and others serving alcohol at their residences if they seek reimbursement of the costs of the drinks from the university. It does not apply to faculty and others serving their own alcoholic beverages to visitors or others at their residences if they are not seeking reimbursement from the university. Speaker Leaf asked Serenity King to work on the wording of the policy and circulate it prior to the January Senate meeting. Dr. Cantrell moved to place the policy on the January Senate agenda. Dr. Redman seconded. The motion carried.
10. PM-15 COMMITTEE ON PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION

Serenity King discussed the amendments the charge. The council agreed that they were non-substantive with respect to faculty role on the committee and did not require Senate approval.

11. FITNESS FOR DUTY POLICY FOR FACULTY

Since the Council had not yet received this report, Dr. Cantrell recommended that the Council review it after it is circulated and approve it for the Senate agenda by email. Dr. Redman seconded. The motion carried.

12. GRADUATE CATALOG AMENDMENTS TO FIRST 40 PAGES AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS—DR. CANTRELL

After discussion that resulted in a few changes, Dr. Cantrell moved to place the material on the agenda for the January Senate meeting. Dr. Beron seconded. The motion carried.

13. JANUARY SENATE AGENDA

1. President's report to the Senate on the university budget.
2. Review draft response to CB on emerging university initiative.
3. Amendment to undergraduate catalog rule on grades for repeated courses. (Item carried over from November Senate meeting.)
4. New Policy on Camps & Clinics
5. Alcoholic Beverages Policy to Senate after approval by Council in email vote.
6. Fitness for Duty Policy for Faculty
7. Graduate Catalog 40 pages, text for program changes, biomedical programs, system engineering program.

Dr. Redman moved to approve the agenda. Dr. Cantrell seconded the motion. The motion carried.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Daniel adjourned the meeting.

APPROVED: ________________________________  DATE: ________________________________
Murray J. Leaf
Speaker of the Senate
Senate Advisory Committee on the University Budget

Purpose
The purpose of this committee is to develop a charge for a Senate Committee on Budget and Planning. This shall be a standing committee of the Senate, reporting to the President and the Senate.

Membership:
The committee shall have nine voting members. One member shall be appointed from the faculty of each School, two members shall be chosen from the faculty at large for special expertise or interest in institutional budgeting, and one additional member each from the Council on Undergraduate Education and the Council on Graduate Education. Members shall serve staggered three year terms, except that in the first year three of the nine members shall be appointed for one year, three for two years, and three for three years. The Associate Vice President for Budget and Resource Planning shall serve as member ex officio and assure that the Committee receives information on the budget in a form the Committee finds usable. Voting members shall be appointed by the President after approval by the Academic Senate. Vacancies that arise from resignation or departure shall be filled in the same manner.

Reporting:
The responsible university official shall be the Provost of the University or the Provost’s designee. The committee will receive the draft budget each year, before the budget is finalized by the President’s Cabinet, and prepare its assessment and advice, to be conveyed to the Senate, Provost, and President.

Areas of concern:
The general charge of the committee is to review the university budget and provide an assessment of the impact of budget priorities on the academic programs and teaching and research priorities of the faculty. The follow are specific matters that the committee may consider could include, but are not limited to:

1. The relative priorities of considerations of pay equity and using money to attract especially outstanding new faculty.

2. Salary and pay policy, including problems of salary equity, compression, and inversion.

3. Relative budgetary weight of support services and academic personnel

4. The possible uses of endowment funds within the constraints of the endowment requirements.

5. Tuition and fees, including admission fees.

6. Allocation of faculty positions to the several schools and programs in relation to university goals and policies.

7. Student salary scales and policies, including policies regarding salary equity.
8. Availability and cost of campus housing in general and for specific student populations, such as graduate versus undergraduate.


10. The balance to be struck between scholarships based on need and scholarships based on merit.

The committee shall also recommend policies or changes in policy on these matters and other such matters as may seem fit, framing the issues to lead the Senate to an informed discussion.

Annual Reports
Annually, but no later than August 31, the Chair of the Committee provides the Speaker of the Faculty with a written report for the Academic Senate of the Committee’s activities for the prior academic year.

Membership: The initial membership shall include Dr. Robert Kieschnick (Chair), Dr. Timothy Redman, Dr. Richard Scotch, Dr. D. T Huynh, and Dr. Mark Anderson.