

Academic Assembly
October 31, 2011
2:05-3:35pm, STCN 130
MINUTES

Present: David Arnesen, Brenda Broussard, Mary Rose Bumpus, Carol Wolfe Clay, Isiaah Crawford, Karen Feldt, Terry Foster, Sonora Johnson, William Kangas, Andy Kim, Chuck Lawrence, Michael Matriotti, Sean McDowell, Jacquelyn Miller, Kristen Shuyler, Chris Stipe, John Strait, Jeremy Stringer, John Weaver, Alanna Welsh, Jason Wirth

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes.

- I. Corrections to 10-17-11 Minutes
 - A. Terry Foster and David Arnesen were not present. David Reid was here in their place.
 - B. Item II, D, 3 should read "been reviewed by SEP and reviewed by the deans."
 - C. Minutes approved with noted corrections.
- II. University Measure 5
4. Year 7: Complete cycle, full cycle report

4. External reviewer visited 18 months ago and the department was not clear about critical setbacks until 6 months ago when the program review was already submitted to PRC

C. Chair from outside department

1. The goal is to stabilize the department with the clear leadership of Dan in a standard 3 year chairmanship (not interim or standing chair). The department can establish best practices and consistent governance under his leadership

2. A solution within the department was not possible, so a chair from another department was the strongest and most positive

- B. Majority of incoming freshman are from out of state (mostly California, Hawaii, Colorado, and Arizona). For the first time, the majority of undergraduates are from out of state.
 - 1. The underrepresented minority population has dropped to 15% of freshman, probably due to a lower discount rate.
 - 2. International students have increased from 1% to 3% of freshman.
 - C. Graduate enrollment is down in programs with higher tuition.
 - D. Law school enrollment is steady. 20% drop in applications, but no significant drop in LSAT scores.
 - E. Retention rate is strong at 86%, but is less than last year (89%).
 - 1. Higher than usual drop outs during the summer for freshman year.
 - 2. Financial difficulty is a major factor in the drop in retention.
 - 3. Marilyn Crone, Chuck Lawrence, and Carol Schneider have developed an early warning system and exit interview to improve retention.
 - F. Our discount rate is lower this year than last year; our rate is reasonable, we are on the higher side in comparison to our peer and aspirational institutions. Focus on growing endowment to support students without having to increase discount rate.
 - G. Percentage drops (discount rate, underrepresented minorities) are only over a one year period; it would be helpful to have data over 5 years. Isaac Crawford will meet with John Strait to arrange distribution of a dashboard report.
- VII. Academic Appointments to Faculty Technology Committee (2)
- A. Email suggested appointments from each school/college to John Strait.
 - B. Contact Randy Horton for more information.
 - C. Onsite demos of 4 LMS candidates in the next few weeks – details forthcoming.
- VIII. Meeting adjourned at 3:33pm.