

UAPB Faculty/Staff Senate Meeting

Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2015

3:00 p.m.

S.J. Parker 1890 Building Auditorium

Present Senators: Michael Bates, Sederick Rice, Joyce Vaughan, Paul Hooven, Albert Toh, Felecia Cooper, Shahidul Islam, Amanze Charles Ihedioha, Anita Kelley, Eddie Hand, Lucretia Williams, Jerry Lewis, Lavior Martin, Shirley Cherry, Nancy Lake, Mary Brentley, Margaret Taylor, Lawrence Awopetu, Robert Thompson, Grant Wangila, Ronald Reynolds and Sheena Meadows

Next meeting: TBA

I. UAPB Senate Meeting Opening

Dr. Michael Bates

- Dr. Bates' remarks:
 - Thanked attendees
 - Thanked Dr. Rice for stepping up during his absence

II. Senator Roll Call

Mrs. Sheena Meadows

- Mrs. Meadows called roll
- Ms. Vaughan verified that a quorum was not present

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Sheena Meadows

- To be sent via email with corrections sent to meadowss@uapb.edu

IV. University Update

Dr. Laurence Alexander

- Early retirement
 - The inquiry to discontinue the "early retirement" package came from him due to concerns that the practice was taking resources from the University that could be allotted elsewhere (such as for bonuses).
 - VC Martin referred to Board Policy 430.2 which is what has been included in the Campus Bulletin.
- The Nursing program proposal will go before the Nursing Board on May 7th with the help of work from (Dr. Alexander, Dr. McCray, Dr. Stewart, and Dr. English)
- Currently engaged in conversation to have an Oct. 3rd football game against Alcorn State played at War Memorial Stadium in Little Rock, AR
 - Planning discussion with alumni to hosts recruitment/attraction events for the weekend
- The City of Pine Bluff is working on redevelopment plans and the top three priorities of the plan are: downtown development, University Drive, and parks and recreation
 - Plans for increased lighting on University are underway. Funds have been received for light posts. A desire to include UAPB banners has been expressed. Plans to proceed upon the completion of construction
- The accreditation process is underway and Drs. McCray and Herts are heading the process

- There is a need for more individuals in assessment process and the program/division levels
- We should all become familiar with the Black Male Achievement Quality Initiative and more awareness of the initiative is needed campus-wide
- Enrollment
 - There was good attendance at Lion Fever Day which is attributed to the work of many.
 - There is a 33% increase in freshmen applications compared to last year
 - The goal is to have a total enrollment of 3,000 students. We currently have 2,200 students.
 - The goal is to have over 5,000 new (freshmen, graduate, transfer) applications by June
 - The Neighbors of Arkansas Scholarship was mentioned (info on UAPB page)
 - We should all help spread the word about this scholarship.
- Aquaculture Update
 - The Bill was withdrawn and there are no additional updates
 - Working to get a Beta fish testing station in Lonoke for fall testing
 - Will give a quarterly update to legislature about activity in Aquaculture/Fisheries

A. 2015-2016 University Budget Update- Interim Vice Chancellor Carla Martin

- The 2015-2016 budget is due to System Office on May 1st
- Proposed tuition and fees due Monday
 - Q: Will a fee for a parking pass be included in tuition and fees?
 - A: Parking is not a mandatory fee, so it is not included in the proposal
 - Q: Can a parking fee be added to the proposed fee structure?
 - A: Possibly, but parking is not mandatory.
 - Do students pay a transportation fee?
 - Yes.
- The overall budget is anticipated to be flat
- There is discussion to hold 1% of the budget for contingency which accounts for \$217,713
 - If we don't get access to that 1%, than our budget will decrease
 - If we do get access to that 1%, than our budget will remain flat (most likely to occur)
 - If we get access this year (which is likely), than we should not expect to have access to the 1% next year
- Considering a 3.5-4% increase in tuition and fees
 - 3 new fees include (public safety fee, wellness fee, and assessment fee)
 - These fees are new to UAPB but not to sister schools in the System
- UAPB will no longer cash checks
- There is a 2-tier insurance increase coming down the pipeline and we're planning for the increase
 - Will work with the Senate to plan for this increase
- Q: Is there an opportunity for a bonus structure?
- A: There is an opportunity for a bonus structure, but bonuses will likely be based on a set range and specified criteria
- Q: Will there be raises?
- A: The opportunity for raises are contingent upon the increase in tuition and fees

B. Student Affairs Update- Vice Chancellor Elbert Bennett

- The Fitness Center is open
- There is a buzz about UAPB in Pine Bluff which is good

- Anticipating the need for all beds on campus due to increased enrollment compared to the 43-44% normally used
- Expecting a record summer enrollment due to LIONS Program
- Planning a partnership with Pulaski Tech
- Public Safety will be fully staffed (16 officers, police chief, and 244 cameras)
- Residential Life will be fully staffed
- Wants Senate to help address lack of student participation
 - Considering making Student Involvement and Leadership functions mandatory for student leaders
- Oct. 3rd game in Little Rock is a good opportunity for recruitment

C. University Student Loan Default Rate Update- Mrs. Janice Kearney

- 235 and they will be awarding soon
- 1,300 new FAFSA apps compared to last year
- The default rate is high, but we are receiving consultation from a 3rd party company for resolution. Past rates: (2009-29.8%, 2010-29.2%, 2011-29.9%)

D. eVersity Update- Dr. Sederick Rice

- Course developers are still needed for eVersity initiative

E. Commuter Meal Plan for Faculty and Staff Update- Mrs. Sheena Meadows

- Results of a survey indicated a faculty/staff meal plan is desired and that some faculty would enjoy a separate dining option in the cafeteria
- Vice Chancellor Martin referenced the Commuter Meal Plan where faculty/staff can purchase bulk meals at a discounted rate. Additionally, there are anticipated updates to the Student Union in the works, so discussion needs to take place immediately about a separate dining option.

V. 2015-2016 Senate Elections

Mr. Robert Thompson

- Elections could not be held due to the absence of a quorum
- *Dr. Hand moved to table the elections to the next meeting. Dr. Brentley seconded the motion. The motion carried.*

VI. Other Business

- The Technology Committee report will be sent via email.
- Announcements were made about the Founders Week activities
- Q: What is the status of the Larison Building?
- A (Dr. Alexander): It's the highest priority renovation which could include more space for labs
- Comment: Consider addressing the plumbing in Woodard Hall

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Michael Bates

Respectfully Submitted,
Sheena T. Meadows

UAPB Faculty Staff Senate Secretary, 2014-2015

Please email all revisions to meadowss@uapb.edu.