

Steering Committee w/ Provost Barrett 3/10/97

Present: Barrett, Amy, Joe Benson, Bob Sigler, Peggy Jessee, Wythe, Don DeSmet, Rona. Bob Halli, Ray White, Lee Pike, Betty Bryce, Nick Stinnett, MB

[[Note: We need to anticipate ByLaws change in March meeting: suggest 'nominations' for officers in the (2nd?) March meeting.]]

Discussion of next year's budget ... Spreadsheet on projector...
How to balance the budget...

Problems in income: Soph & Jr cohorts are about 500 low (together)

6-year retention rate:

UA 57%

Auburn 67%

Miami, OH 82%

If our retention rate rises by 10%, that's about 200 more students:
40% of the cohort loss of 500!

Wythe: might look at minority retention: especially low?
Suspects that Greek retention is quite low.

Some colleges have a high retention rate. Engineering has the lowest retention, but hopefully the Foundation Coalition will help...
Univ 101 (1hr) -- basic study skills, (HES & Nursing have one)
Those students taking the course have a higher retention rate.

What about activities to increase retention in each dept?
Social activities in the dedicated dorms...

New College:

- Discontinuance? No - hopes the program to custom-tailor programs, & interdisciplinary studies will thrive. Perhaps join a new dept of Inter-disc. Studies?
- More discussion of alternatives.. such as "Alpha College".
Some deans of professional schools are talking about not admitting students to the prof school until soph or jr year.
Barrett says that Alpha College could grow out of A&S, but not out of NewCollege. The merger would not impede Alpha College...
Pressure of merger seems to bringing out new creativity, new options.
- A&S impact: Should we discuss impact on A&S?
Barrett can't see any immediate impact on A&S, because administrative funds, etc would move with the faculty.
- Could we say: "The ability of students to take cross-disc. majors will be protected for the immediate future..??" particularly across colleges.
- If A&S is a stumbling block to inter-disc majors, that is a

problem that needs to change.

Problems in A&S that including NC would need to be resolved:

- # of hours transferred into A&S
- "life-credit" hours
- (other?) independent study contracts?

Barrett says that the only reasonable way is that a NC student who wants to do a double major in 'Comm' (out of A&S) would be given a waiver of the A&S rules for that student.

Q: How to guarantee that the inter-disc approach will survive in A&S, and that the NC faculty lines will survive.

The NC folks want to preserve their special curricular

Regular Steering Committee: 3/11/97

Present: Amy, Peggy Jessee, Margaret Garner, Betty Bryce, Bob Sigler, Bob Brooks, Ray White, Joe Benson, Rona Donahoe, Lee Pike, Don DeSmet, Wythe Holt, Bob Halli, MB

Also: Bing Blewitt

Agenda:

1. Sexual Harassment policy revisions
2. Faculty Senate Officers nominating committee
3. Budget model: next R&P meetings is March 20. Do we have any input...
4. Faculty representative an the alumni association "Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Awards" committee
5. Legislative Agenda Committee update

Committee Reports

AA
Sen Ops
R&S
FA
Stu Aff
P&O

Other?

----- Minutes -----

Agenda:

1. Sexual Harassment policy revisions
 - Forward our comments to Bryan Faire, including
 - Accused should be informed of the complaint at the appropriate time.
 - Identity of appropriate officers should be clearly identified...
 - If records are kept, administrative judgements should be recorded
2. Faculty Senate Officers nominating committee
 - Amy, MB, Betty Bryce, Inez Rovegno?, Pat Bauch?
3. Budget model: next R&P meetings is March 20. Do we have any input at this time with regard to the budget model? Do we want to advise that it be put on a web page for general review?
 - Why was direct mailing not done this year?

- Don DeSmet is trying to get student names,-- can't get any!
- Recruitment & Retention committee has been steered away from this info. Ray White will put together some questions for the Provost about this. Suggest that Barrett present the spreadsheet to a broad faculty meeting.

4. Faculty representative an the alumni association "Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Awards" committee
Wythe suggests the Senate Officers, as the highest elected faculty members, to indicate the importance that we give teaching.

5. Legislative Agenda Committee update

Met w/Sorensen on Friday.

- Several events planned, budget hearings soon
- Rally scheduled for the 8th or 9th in Montgomery, at State House. ("Clog the halls") -- 50 students, 50 alumni, 50 faculty/staff
- House Ways & Means recommendation was for 1% increase.
- Senate might raise it... Finance & Taxation committee
- We need to start sending letters now!
- Fob James wants to put a 10% of enrollment cap on out-of-state enrollment. This is a serious threat. OOSTate students pay 1/2 of our revenues! Currently 30% of our enrollment.
- James also wants to reduce our benefits.

Committee Reports

AA

- Talking about NC merger -- in info gathering process, wants some clarifications from Barrett: will meet with her next week, will meet w/Passerini from NC. Had one meeting about "What else do we need to know?" Barrett does not anticipate attrition in faculty lines. Also asking for more discussion on the alternatives... AA couldn't respond w/o some assessment of impact on A&S
- Irritant that will not go away: Task Force on Recruitment's report.. The suggestions on academic issues opened a huge can of worms, but the non-academic issues.
(forgiveness policies, Incompletes, Medical w/drawals (harder, no sensitivity to psych/emotional problems, impacts very few students), Core Curr -> narrower??. no dept scholarships -> all come out of Rose-not dept/division, plus/minus, ...)
Many of these policies would seem to reduce retention, not increase it!

What are we going to do on NC merger?

Perhaps suggest that a college merger, w/ curriculum problems, should take longer than merging two dept.

AA would like impact/response from A&S.

A&S has formed a committee, headed by Richard Diehl... involve him with AA's meetings w/Barrett & w/Passerini.

Sen Ops

- has received no feedback on changes

MB put out a message requesting feedback. Wythe wants discussion of relevant points, etc. Send copies out to all again...

Wythe would prefer to vote on them as packages, and postpone the effective date of any bylaws change that depend on Constitution changes until after the Constitution changes are fully voted & accepted.

R&S

- NC
- Service policy is in limbo until they have time to address it.

FA

Lee & Rona met with Priscilla Hancock Monday.. She has been very busy..

Asked about academic users on the mainframe, will be moved to a UNIX box, perhaps not an IBM, but a Sun, set up by June 1, Bids will go out in April..

Plans to standardize HW/SW.. good reasons to leave IBM & Macs ...

But would push for either site licensing (UASystem wide) or bulk purchasing.

Going to SCT+, it's too late to do anything else -- we'll barely make it by 2000 anyway.

Looking at buying an IBM mainframe, but after 2000, perhaps moving to a UNIX machine.

Seebeck: any personnel changes? way too many 'machine shop' people, running the mainframe, tapes, disks...watching to be sure that it doesn't crash.

AfTer the new mainframe is in place, retrain lots of these people, move to academic support..

Stu Aff

Academic/Athletic: Scholarship and non-scholarship receive the same academic support.

Medical withdrawal

Attach the Acad/Athl policy to the AGENDA...

P&O

2 resolutions (unanimous vote of P&O) - ATTACHED

Other?

Substantial debate on raising athletic ticket prices in the committee.

Commencement: Amy & some senators met with him, but evidently we are still having 3 commencements...

Shouldn't we be making more about this real significant governance issue?

On commencement, he is depriving us of power we had...

Amy, Bob Halli & Don DeSmet will meet with Sorensen, talk with him, esp about the governance issue.