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MINUTES OF MEETING #538, 17 JULY 2013
APPROVED 29 AUGUST 2013

Present: *Wai Mok, Chris Allport, Charles Hickman, Dan Sherman, Keith Jones, Derrick Smith, Joe Taylor, Kwaku Gyasi, Linda Maier, Carolyn Sanders, Deborah Heikes, Andree Reeves, Eric Seemann, David Pan, Sherri Messimer, Kader Frendi, Jeff Evans, Ina Warboys, Marlena Primeau, Phillip Bitzer, Carmen Scholz, James Baird, Debra Moriarity, Tim Newman, Peter Slater, Leonard Choup, Richard Miller, Jakobus le Roux, Nikolai Pogorelov*

Absent with proxy: *Bhavani Sitaraman, Christine Sears, Anne Marie Choup, Jeff Kulick, Anna Benton, Peggy Hays*

Guests: *Robert Altenkirch, Brent Wren, Richard Lieu, Don Gregory*

- President Altenkirch discussed the Department of Physics and the Department Structure Department of Space Science with 8 and the Department of Physics with Optics, Astrophysics with 13
Concerns from the floor of the Senate were expressed regarding viability of splitting the Physics Department and questions also came from the floor of the Senate. There was some concern for 2 smaller departments instead of 1 larger one. Is the Chair apparent? Dr. Altenkirch stated they are looking for a Chair. Would someone want a degree in Space Science? Dr. Altenkirch stated the group would have to attest to the viability. Viability is a big question. See if it works then bring them back together. They will be housed in the same location.
- Honors College: We will move from an Honors Program to an Honors College. This will help with visibility, marketing, enrollment growth and the creation of philanthropic opportunities. We thought this went through in spring but it was held because tuition was talked about. It has been discussed but now we are sending it through and we can market it for fall. We will do a Search for a Dean. The person could come from inside. Brent Wren finished the proposal and will send it down. We need materials to market to convince students to participate. NCHC has information on their site.
- FY14 Budget—same as what was sent in the memo.

- Scholarship Matrix—tuition discounting—Wes Colley analyzed our current matrix and gave recommendations on where to put more dollars to change. Out of State is different. High GPA and moderate ACT is the sweet spot and very high ACT. Bumped on out of state side and will help in recruiting. Data set is sparse. In state 296 out of 750 and out of state 32 out of 750. Changed matrix and looked at difference for students coming this fall verses student coming in next fall—Twenty additional in state and 20 out of state.
- Bringing in consulting group Huron—to give us advice on what we need to do to get from where we are to where we want to be in the strategic plan. Huron is large and has different divisions. There is an executive summary of what they did for Clemson. They will be here this afternoon and work with us 3 or 4 months. They will collect data and tell us if we are where we need to be.
- Web redesign —We have hired a company iFactory out of Boston. They will start next week.
- University Place School—The closing is complete. We are leasing back the building to the school district for \$1 per Year. They take care of everything. We will now be able to develop an entrance on University—the same as the Sparkman entrance but not as elaborate. We are looking into burying lines as part of the construction. Looking at how to finance this. It would be a mistake to build the entrance with the polls there. This is also a problem on Holmes. But burying those lines is more expensive. It will cost about \$1M to bury the lines on University.
- Property Acquisition: We have purchased the house on the corner of Holmes and Austin. It will go to the Board in September. Austin Drive dead ends at the soccer field. We own most of the houses and we are purchasing two more and we will use them as rentals for faculty. Eventually Austin will be the boundary of our property. We are using the Fund Balance for these purchases. These are small scale one time expenditures. There is a discussion with the city to buy the park.
- Provost Search—It is moving along. We have hired Greenwood Asher and Associates.
- 64 hour rule—This is a response from President Altenkirch to a Resolution passed by the Faculty Senate: We have talked about this. Prior to fall 2010 there was a rule in place and then in 2010 it changed. It was supposed to be in effect for one year and then we were to take a look at it and the conclusion was to leave it in place. The rationale for changing it was that no one else had such a rule. The resolution was to go back to the old rule. The Data showed little change. There is no statistical impact. We should market UAH as if you come here you can live on campus, be part of clubs, etc. and you will do better. You can save money by going here for 4 years. We need to make it more attractive to come here. Question of distribution of courses in the matrix. Biology, English and Math are hit the hardest. Twenty five percent of the graduating class was sampled. This was done by hand. We need to look at statistics more before we make a change.

- Dr. Richard Miller stated we are re-implementing the mini-grant program for junior faculty –or a version of that program.

- As part of the Strategic Plan we are looking at revising the GER. There was a proposal for this that was not funded. Andrea Word wrote the proposal. Dr. Wren and Dr. Altenkirch are engaging Andrea Word to revise the GER with guidelines about having a simple, common body of knowledge—what we have now is complicated. It is hard to understand especially if you want to transfer from one program to another.

- Dr. Slater requested Dr. Altenkirch send information to the faculty in an email so they can use it.

- Putting together a comprehensive coherent recruiting package. Use video with testimonials. Use local information. This will be done in the Communication group. It will be pretty. We will have a spreadsheet and a graph.