Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting with UNK Administration
22 October 2008
Warner Conference Room, 3:00-4:45 PM

Present: Chancellor Kristensen, SVCAA Murray, VCUR Carlson, VCBF Johnson, Dean of Student Life Zeller, FS Senators Benz, Dimock, Frickel, Miller and Summar.

Agenda Items

1) Is there an update on the SIS implementation? Who at UNK is involved

There is a steering committee. At UNK the core team includes Kim Schipporeit, Andrea Childress, Kathy Livingston, and Deb Schroeder. The goal is to admit the first students in Fall, 2009 and run our present system in parallel with the new system. We will then use only the new system from Fall 2010 onward. VC Johnson indicated that Schipporeit and Childress would be the point people for this, and that their time would pretty much be fully occupied with this project for the next two years. The plan is to hire entry-level people to help spread the load in their departments for those two years.

Miller asked if the Degree Audit module would come from PeopleSoft or another vendor. VC Johnson said that that was not known yet, and that Cedar Crestone (the Project Manager) will make that decision.

Miller asked if there would be additional costs. VC Johnson said that any additional costs would come out of the project, and where those monies would come from would be a system choice.

The chancellor closed by saying that he has great confidence in the core team and that they are doing an excellent job.

2) What is the nature of the Supplemental Instructors federal grant through Student Affairs? Can faculty apply for this support?

Dr. Zeller reported that 4 years ago she received a 3-year grant from the National Student Loan Program to fund supplemental instructors. There were several requirements for the students in order to be named as a supplemental instructor. There were several criteria to qualify a course for supplemental instruction, including student perceptions of difficulty and aggregate data about the likelihood of students passing the class. With grant funding, Dr. Zeller was able to fund between 5 and 7 instructors per semester. With grant funding gone, she was able to fund 2 SI's through student fees. She is looking at mechanisms to continue to fund the program, including class credit for the SIs.
3) What is the update on the budget cuts? Have decisions been made on how and when faculty will have an opportunity to give input?

The cuts are being collected by VC Johnson, and should be put out during the first week of November. Sen. Miller asked about the process of faculty input. The Chancellor indicted that he will schedule open forums for faculty comment, and that an email address will also be set up.

4) What is the update on the search for a new SVC?

The applicants have been narrowed to a short list and references are being called. The Chancellor hopes to schedule interviews before Thanksgiving.

5) Administration Reports
   a. Chancellor
      Tim Burkink is the acting Dean of Business. Airways Science is still negotiating with the new Fixed Base Operator.
      RMAC has been notified that efforts in cost containment could include a conference change.
   b. SVC
      SVC Murray indicated that he had spent a lot of October in China, and was forging new 1-2-1 relationships with several schools there. There may be a slight problem developing with our international MBA students, in that we may have more students per faculty than guidelines suggest is optimal.
   c. VCBF
      All projects are currently on schedule. The utility project needs sidewalks, sod, and fence removal. Bruner is on schedule to be finished by December 2009.
      Follet’s Bookstore is closed as of October 15th. Book buy-back will occur in several places to minimize disruption due to having only one bookstore. In the spring, the size of the bookstore will be expanded to the east, requiring relocation of the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
      UNK has received a $1 million seed grant for a new wellness center. We have not accepted the grant yet, as the center requires matching funds. We are currently looking for sources for these funds.
   d. VCUR
      The search for a Community Relations Director has been closed, and a search for a Director of University Events has been opened instead. We hope to fill this position by Christmas.
      We have invited three State Senators to campus, and have invited the new State senators to come to campus on November 17th to meet the Chancellor and President.
      The new web presence is going a little slow. We will be showing ‘peeks’ as the semester progresses.
There will be a series of new print and billboard ads coming out. Ads will also include additional direct mail and some broadcast, with heaviest cycle of ad campaign in the spring semester.

e. Dean of Students

OcSoberfest is Oct. 30, Disability awareness is 17th-23rd.

6) General comments and questions

Miller asked if it was possible to examine Summer school monies separately, and the answer was yes. The administration said that summer school monies are handled differently than other income sources. This may have implications for summer school funding.

VC Johnson indicted that is her intention to update the campus quarterly on the budget process.

Respectfully Submitted

Joe Benz