

Minutes
UWF Board of Trustees
Academic and Student Affairs Committee Meeting
Conference Center, Room A
Friday, December 15, 2006

Committee Chair Roy Smith called the meeting to order at 8:45 am on Friday, December 15, 2006 in the Conference Center, Room A. Trustees Collier Merrill and Chuck Horner had scheduling conflicts and were not able to attend.

Committee members present:

Trustee Roy Smith
Trustee Jay Gould
Trustee Catherine Kelly
Trustee Christina Genualdi

Other attendees:

Dr. Sandra Flake, Provost
Dr. Debbie Ford, VP for Student Affairs
Mrs. Irene Patti, Office Administrator

Chair's Greeting

Chair Roy Smith welcomed everyone to the Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting of the UWF Board of Trustees. He also welcomed Trustee Christiana Genualdi, Student Government President, to her first board meeting. He noted that the first order of business was approval of the minutes.

Action Items

1. A motion was made to approve the Minutes of May 4, 2006 as presented by Chair Smith. http://uwf.edu/trustees/Dec15_06/5.4.06Draft_Academic_Minutes.pdf

Motion by: Trustee Gould
Seconded by: Trustee Genualdi
It passed unanimously.

2. A motion was made to approve an honorary degree, Doctorate of Science, for Dr. Alexa Canady. Chair Smith called on Dr. Sandra Flake to review the criteria for bestowing an honorary degree. Dr. Flake commented that Dr. Canady, the first African-American pediatric neurosurgeon in the United States, currently lives in Pensacola and has made outstanding contributions to the community. Dr. Canady is a wonderful role model and has met the criteria for receiving the honorary degree. Dr. Flake also noted that Dr. Canady will serve as the commencement speaker at the December 16, 2006 graduation ceremonies. http://uwf.edu/trustees/Dec15_06/HACM113006.pdf
http://uwf.edu/trustees/Dec15_06/Alexa_Canady.pdf
http://uwf.edu/trustees/Dec15_06/Biography.pdf

Motion by: Trustee Kelly
Seconded by: Trustee Genualdi
It passed unanimously.

Chair Smith noted the conclusion of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee action items and indicated that the committee would now discuss informational items.

Informational/Discussion Items

1. (SACS) Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (COC) Reaffirmation Follow-Up

Dr. Barbara Lyman stated that the SACS accreditation process is extensive and involves a complex scorecard of 76 discrete areas of compliance. One year ago the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges (COC) reaffirmed UWF's accreditation through 2015. In January 2006, SACS sent a follow-up letter to UWF indicating that although UWF received "a clean bill of health" there were six (6) recommendations/requests based on four areas that UWF needs to address: Quality Enhancement Plan, Institutional Effectiveness, Educational Programs (All) and Educational Programs (Undergraduate).

Following UWF's Response Report, only four of the original six recommendations remain. UWF submitted the first monitoring report in October 2006 and by January 2007 SACS will identify any remaining concerns, which will need to be addressed by the Fall 2007.

Dr. Lyman then reviewed how UWF compares to other universities in Florida in four areas: Quality Enhancement Plan, Institutional Effectiveness, All Educational Programs, and Undergraduate Programs.

Dr. Lyman then addressed the question of certification requirements.

In response to questions from the board, Dr. Lyman provided detailed descriptions on the Quality Enhancement Plan and the General Education area. Dr. Flake noted that UWF's General Education program is being addressed and strengthened in an effort to reshape the program. Trustee Gould also expounded on the General Education requirements.

2. Status of Academic Learning Compacts (ALC's)

Dr. Lyman stated that the purpose of ALC is to "account for student achievement in baccalaureate degree programs in the state university system". She also noted that ALC's address five domains: content knowledge, critical thinking, communication skills, values/ethics, and project management for SACS accreditation. She also noted that UWF must find ways to determine if the university assessments are valid. She discussed the history of ALC policy and procedures and noted that UWF is required to periodically report progress to the Board of Governors. Dr. Lyman and Dr. Flake elaborated on the student skill assessment process in response to questions from board members.

In response to a question from Trustee Genualdi, Dr. Jane Halonen stated that UWF project management also accounts for out-of-classroom experience including projects from student affairs.

Trustee Smith questioned the percentage of students involved in out-of-classroom experiences. Trustee Genualdi noted that there are 120 student organizations on campus and that UWF provides plenty of opportunities for students to become involved in an array of activities. Dr. Ford noted that Student Activities is working to create a roadmap to assist students in gaining outside experience.

Additional discussion was held on increasing the graduation rate for freshmen through student engagement and retention. Dr. Ford noted that student retention is a complex issue and that a task force is being created to address the topic.

Dr. Lyman also stated that the two primary challenges of ALC are (1) to support the idea among all faculty that as professional educators and scholarly teachers committed to ensuring the quality of educational experiences at UWF, we should be interested in seeking empirical evidence that will inform us about the nature of student learning in all our programs and (2) to manage documentation of the ALC actions and results. The trustees also discussed faculty involvement in the teaching process. Dr. Lyman also provided an example of an Academic Learning Compact.

3. Update on Accreditation of Clinical Laboratory Sciences B.S. Program

Dr. Jane Halonen stated that MEDTECH has a new name: Clinical Laboratory Science.

Since Swarna Krothapalli was not able to attend, Dr. Kristina Behan presented information on Clinical Laboratory Science. She reviewed the accreditation process and time line and then addressed the seven (7) areas of Accreditation Standards / Criteria: Sponsorship, Resources, Curriculum, Students, Operational Policies, Program Evaluation, and Maintaining Accreditation.

Dr. Behan also addressed the issue of recruiting students for this program.

4. 05-06 Degree Program Changes Approved

Dr. Barbara Lyman informed the board that two engineering programs have been added and there has been one program name change. She also noted the creation of four new specializations within existing degree programs and the deletion of three specializations within existing degree programs.

5. Academic Affairs Update

Dr. Pam Northrup, Director, Academic Technology Center, presented information on the role of the Academic Technology Center. She stated that the goal was to create a center in line with UWF's mission. There are currently five initiatives in ATC: online programs, mobile distance learning, faculty support and course videoconferencing initiatives.

She discussed the continuing growth of student online program due to the development of new courses. UWF currently offers about 300 online courses. About 45% of students accessing online courses are local with the remainder from outside the region. She also noted the large number of military personnel accessing UWF online courses. She also provided information on both Undergraduate, Graduate and Certificate programs offered on-line and noted the tremendous growth of Master of Education M. Ed programs, related to the Troops to Teachers program.

Dr. Northrup also discussed the success of the joint UWF and Coast Guard Institute program implementing the Mobile Distance Learning for the military using PDAs. As a result, UWF will receive a congressional earmark of \$1 million to recruit Navy and Army students, to establish a military student support portal and to implement two mobile learning programs.

Dr. Northrup also reviewed the benefits to UWF of Mobile Distance Learning. She also discussed faculty support and training of MDL through Studio e and the course development progress.

Dr. Northrup then reviewed the goals of Studio eFaculty Professional Development and asked ATC: Faculty Support to assist faculty.

She reviewed UWF's Videoconferencing capability and the university's needs to accommodate growth at new campuses by using existing faculty and qualified adjuncts via synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning strategies.

Trustee Smith thanked Dr. Northrup for her good work.

6. Student Affairs Update

Dr. Deborah Ford stated that UWF attained 100% occupancy in residence halls at the beginning of semester and anticipates 96% occupancy for the spring semester. She also noted that a Task Force is looking at the Master Plan for growth in housing and residency hall and will provide details at next meeting.

Dr. Ford stated that Dr. Ruth Davison is new Interim Director, Housing, and Residence Life and that UWF has a new Dean of Students, Dr. Judy Deshotels. She also introduced Dr. Rebecca E. Magerkorth, the new Director of the Counseling Center. Dr. Ford also announced that Dr. Lusharon Wiley successfully defended her dissertation.

As part of the expanding Greek organizations for female students, Dr. Ford stated that the Alpha Chi Omega has invited 45 new members. Trustee Genualdi also noted that about 4 – 5% of the students participate in Greek.

UWF will play host to students from all over the country will compete in football in early 2007 as a favor to the University of New Orleans.

Dr. Ford also noted the success of the Health, Leisure, and Sports facility and that an average of 700 – 800 visits per day are made to the facility.

Dr. Ford also thanked SGA and Trustee Genualdi for their Little Argos/Big Argos involvement with students at local middle schools. She also expressed thanks for their efforts in looking at a more transparent budgeting process.

Dr. Ford concluded her report on Student Affairs by recognizing all the staff and noting that it had been a great semester.

Trustee Smith also noted the importance of student activities

7. Student Accomplishments

Dr. Ford thanked the many students, faculty, and staff who worked to make the NCAA Division II Fall Festival a huge success. She then presented the successes of the athletics program. <http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/BOTInfo/index.html>

Other Business: Additional Item

Chair Smith asked if there were any further academic or student affairs business to be discussed.

Trustee Gould noted that flu shots are still available through the UWF Health Center.

A motion to adjourn was made.
Motion by: Trustee Gould
Seconded by: Trustee Kelly
It passed unanimously.

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 am
Respectfully submitted

Irene A. Patti, Recording Secretary
December 22, 2006