

Academic Council Minutes
February 27, 2008
2:00 p.m.
Caucus Room

Present: Mr. David Ray; Dr. Debbie Bryant; Dr. Ranelle Eubanks; Mr. Mark Spencer; Dr. Louis James; Dr. Peggy Doss; Dr. Richard Kluender; Dr. Morris Bramlett; Dr. Trey Berry; Dr. Robert Stark; Dr. Jim Roiger; Ms. Annette Hall; Ms. Pamela Gouner; Ms. Sandra Campbell; Ms. Linda Rushing; Reporter: Ms. Rita Hyatt.

The Council approved the February 13, 2008 minutes.

Mr. Ray asked the Council to describe unique efforts to improve retention in their units. One unit is reporting mid-term grades to students; another unit is bringing company representatives in to talk to students about job opportunities.

Mr. Ray provided the Council with information concerning a handguns policy on campus. Arkansas law addresses handguns on campus directly in A.C.A. §5-73-119 (c) (1) as well as concealed weapons in A.C.A. §5-73-306 (14). ADHE stands firmly behind the law that no handguns, concealed or unconcealed, are to be on any college campus.

Dr. Trey Berry provided the Council with a revised structure for an Honors Program including a Faculty Honors Council, faculty incentives, admission requirements, probation and suspension from the program, functions of the Honors Council and Honors Director, approval process for instructors to teach honors classes, designated classes, or seminars, and curriculum completion requirements. The Council discussed who would hear student appeals. Mr. Ray asked if the Council wished to proceed with the Honors Program: the Council agreed.

Mr. Ray stated that Executive Council met with several staff members at the February 26 meeting to discuss how to improve summer school. UAM wants to increase the size of summer school. Students are not attending summer school because many have jobs but could take an on-line class. Mr. Ray stated that faculty teaching in the summer will be limited to no more than 9 to 12 hours. Mr. Ray stated that if class enrollment reaches the minimum level, we will offer that class. If a class has fewer than 10 students the instructor's pay will be prorated. Mr. Ray encouraged Units Heads to review the summer school I and II schedule. Mr. Ray asked the Unit Heads to send any requests to teach intersession classes to him for his approval.

Dr. Debbie Bryant stated that UAM has no policy on International Baccalaureate program and the Council may want to consider a policy for UAM. She stated that five schools in Arkansas have an IB program.

Mr. Ray asked if anyone needed a Satellite TV to contact Mr. Bobby Hoyle, Director of IT. Mr. Ray stated that IT is addressing the problem of wireless connections in MCB, BBC, M&S and the UC. Mr. Ray noted the Music building was not included. Mr. Ray discussed the possible relocation of CIV in MCB 305 to the Library Tech Center. The Council was not in favor of the

relocation of the computer lab to MCB 305. Mr. Ray stated that the CIV labs are not being used to the extent of previous years. The Council agreed that two CIV labs would be sufficient.

Mr. Ray reminded the Unit Heads to make sure the ARE_ON survey had been completed and returned to Mr. Bobby Hoyle.

Mr. Ray reminded the Unit Heads to submit student nominations for the Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges to Dr. Clay Brown at the Office of Student Affairs by on February 28.

Dr. Eubanks reminded the Council that College Goal Sunday is March 2.

The Council discussed C & S proposals from Arts and Humanities, Computer Information System, Academic Affairs, Math and Sciences, UAM College of Technology – Crossett, and Education.

The Council adjourned at 4:31 p.m.