Academic Council Meeting
Library Conference Room A
December 12, 2012
2:00 p.m.

Present: Dr. Jimmie Yeiser, Dr. Ranelle Eubanks, Dr. Tom Springer, Mr. Mark Spencer, Dr. Peggy Doss, Dr. Phil Tappe, Ms. Sandra Campbell, Dr. Laura Evans, Dr. Kelly Bryant, Mr. Brian Hairston, Dr. Morris Bramlett, Ms. Linda Rushing, Mr. Bob Ware, Ms. Carol Dolberry, Guests: Dr. Jack Lassiter, Ms. Mary Whiting, and Ms. Susan Brewer, Reporter: Rita Hyatt.

The November 28, 2012 minutes were approved as written.

Dr. Lassiter provided the Council with a copy of the Distance Education Resolution that was adopted by the Board of Trustees, a newspaper article on “UA to go outside on online classes,” and copy of Board Policy 210.2 concerning Copyright and Distance Learning. The System Office is looking to expand on-line courses by partnering with an outside agency to help design degree programs in high need areas and will recruit students around the country. Ms. Mary Whiting stated that students want more on-line courses. Dr. Michael Moore has been named Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Arkansas System. Dr. Lassiter has invited him to visit UAM in the spring semester. The Legislative session begins January 14. Dr. Lassiter discussed remediation and noted that 62% of UAM freshman students must take at least one development course. Dr. Lassiter discussed performance funding. UAM receives 46% of revenue from state.

Ms. Susan Brewer provided the Council with a copy of loans paid out over summer 2011 and 2012. She stated that UAM summer enrollment for 2010 and 2011 was high due to the availability of the “Second Scheduled Pell Grant” that students could receive. UAM summer enrollment declined in summer 2012 because the Second Pell Grant is no longer funded. Ms. Brewer stated that the Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (SEOG) and Workforce Improvement Grants are being saved for summer enrollment. Students needing Financial Aid to pay for summer school should go by the Financial Aid Office to discuss availability of grants.

The Council continued its discussion of an academic partnership with UAPB. Ms. Carol Dolberry stated that students would pay tuition and fees at the campus where they are enrolled in course. Ms. Brewer stated that students would only receive Financial Aid at the university where the student was seeking a degree. We could offer courses by CIV between UAM and UAPB or students could attend college at UAPB for two years and then transfer to UAM to complete degree.

The Council discussed retention ideas.
Dr. Yeiser asked Unit Heads to encourage faculty to complete forms on Grades First for the athletic department.

Dr. Eubanks discussed registration access in WeevilNet. Faculty should be the only ones to enroll students in classes. Dr. Eubanks will send out email to Unit Heads about other in their units who have access to register students.

Dr. Yeiser asked the Council to start keeping a log of complaints for their unit for the Higher Learning Commission upcoming visit. (nature of complaint, date of complaint, how problem was resolved)

Dr. Yeiser discussed student’s class attendance. Academic Affairs will modify the email message to faculty about student absences in class to say: “Please allow the student to make up any work/tests per the course syllabus when he/she returns to class.”

Dr. Yeiser discussed the cost of the 13-15 catalog. The Council said that faculty prefers to have a hard copy of the catalog. The Council agreed to reduce the number of hard copies to 600-700.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council of deadlines for preregistration for Spring 2013.
   January 2—Tuition and Fees Due for Preregistered Students
   January 7—Schedule Changes, New Student Orientation and Night Registration
   January 8—Open Registration
   January 9—First Day of Classes
   January 15—Last Day to Register or Add Classes
   March 27—Last day to withdrawal from classes

The Council discussed C & S proposals from Academic Affairs to modify the Coaching Emphasis Area of the BGS degree. The Council agreed to waive the 10-day review and approved the proposal.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council of upcoming items:

   Annual Evaluation Deadlines
   Promotion and Tenure Deadlines
   Final Exam Week – December 10-14
   Grades are due 10:00 a.m. on Monday, December 17
   Course syllabus due to the Provost’s Office - January 15

The next Academic Council meeting will be January 23, 2013 in Library Conference Room A.

The Council adjourned at 4:41p.m.