

Academic Council Meeting
February 8, 2012
2:00 p.m.
Library Conference Room A

Present: Mr. David Ray, Dr. Debbie Bryant, Dr. Ranelle Eubanks, Mr. Mark Spencer, Dr. Louis James, Dr. Peggy Doss, Dr. Phil Tappe, Ms. Sandra Campbell, Dr. Tom Springer, Dr. Kelly Bryant, Mr. Brian Hairston, Dr. Morris Bramlett, Ms. Pam Gouner, Mr. Bob Ware, Ms. Linda Rushing, Reporter: Ms. Rita Hyatt.

The minutes of the January 19 meeting were approved.

The Council discussed retention ideas.

- Dr. Doss: Area school districts have a critical need for teachers in mathematics, science, foreign language and English. Some school districts are considering paying tuition for MAT students in these areas.
- Arts and Humanities: Elementary Spanish I & II in the fast-track option seem to be very successful.
- Arts and Humanities: Will offer a custom printed book for World Literature I & II.
- Crossett campus: Has an attendance policy for their students. The Council on Occupational education requires a 60% completion in all programs.

Dr. Eubanks provided the Council with a copy of “Firmer Proposals for Accreditation.”

The Council continued discussing credit by experiential learning. Email any suggestions about cost of tuition to Mr. Brian Hairston. Mr. Hairston will work up a proposal for next Academic Council meeting.

Dr. Eubanks discussed Act 1184 and Remediation. If a student scores less 15 on the ACT, the University must develop a plan of action to help students complete degrees. UAM needs to develop a plan that must be approved by the Coordinating Board.

Mr. Ray discussed academic advising concerns. Faculty members are expected to advise students that they must be continuously enrolled in the appropriate English and mathematics course(s) until General Education requirements are completed. Mr. Ray stated that it is expected that students will complete the General Education requirements within their first 60 hours.

Mr. Ray has formed an Ad hoc committee on On-Line Student Evaluation of Teaching. Members of the committee are Dr. Morris Bramlett, Chair, Dr. Tom Springer, Dr. Glenn Manning, Dr. Kay Walter, Dr. Donna Hunnicutt, Ms. Rebecca Newton and Mr. Bryan Fendley. The committee will review the procedures for student evaluation of teaching. UAM will participate this spring 2012 in a pilot program using an on-line evaluation.

Dr. Eubanks stated there will be a Distance Learning Symposium on April 20 held at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. We need 10-20 UAM faculty to attend this one-day symposium to discuss the current issues in distance learning (send names to attendees to Dr.

Eubanks.) Each campus is being asked to prepare a professional conference-style poster describing the central aspects of its distance learning program.

Mr. Ray stated that Spring 2012 enrollment is 3,690 students.

Mr. Ray reminded the Council that requests for early retirement of faculty are due in the Provost's Office by March 1.

Mr. Ray reminded the Council that Draft II of the class schedule is due in the Registrar's office on February 10.

The Council discussed a C & S proposal from Academic Affairs. The Council approved the proposal.

Mr. Ray reminded the Council of the following deadlines:

- College Goal Sunday -- February 19
- International Student Display -- February 13-17
- Performance Evaluations for all classified employees -- February 15
- Annual Evaluation deadlines
- Deadline to apply for privately funded scholarships for the fall 2012 -- March 1

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

The next Academic Council meeting will be Wednesday, February 22, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. in Library Conference Room A.