Deans' Group Minutes 8/10/05


The minutes of July 20, 2005 were approved with slight modifications.

Update on Enrollment
Bill Fritz provided a handout on enrollment. There were no large enrollment numbers during late registration, but transfer applications are up. Bill noted that transfer students generally register late so the enrollment numbers may rise slightly. Bill added that the economy and the loss of the HOPE scholarship for some students might be impacting student enrollment. Bill Fritz mentioned that the Registrar's Office will begin canceling students who have not paid for their classes on August 15.

Ron Henry commented that the university needs to address the issue of attrition and provide a better climate for transfer students. Bill Fritz added that orientation geared towards transfer students may be beneficial. Ron added that 60% of our graduates are transfer students. Bill Fritz mentioned that it is not too early to start focusing on ways to increase enrollment for the spring semester.

Bill Fritz addressed the last page of the enrollment handout which outlined a memo he plans to send out to the colleges regarding procedures that will be used for fee cancellation for this fall semester. The handout outlined the stricter policies for dropping students for non-payment. The new policy will open up seats in high demand by dropping those who have not paid.

Constitution Day Plans
Ron Henry reported that Congress passed a Constitution Day. All college campuses are expected to participate in the day with activities for the students.

Bill Fritz reported that he has been working with Rebecca Stout in the Dean of Students Office to coordinate system-wide activities. Also, web links to events are being coordinated along with student groups organizing events. Steve Kaminshine mentioned that panel discussions with college faculty and outsiders are being planned.

Fenwick Huss suggested sending a campus-wide email to all faculty, staff, and students announcing the activities planned for the day.

New Faculty Orientation
Ron Henry mentioned the New Faculty Orientation on August 16 which will include a lunch discussion with Ken Bain, author of the book What the Best College Teachers Do. A new faculty dinner is also planned for the evening at the Rialto. Ron Henry mentioned there are 68 new tenure track faculty for the fall semester. The university lost 55 tenure track faculty - 27 retired, 24 resigned, and 4 contracts were not renewed.

Network Upgrade
JL Albert distributed a handout on the Network Upgrade Project which included a schedule of building deployment. JL Albert asked the deans to discuss the schedule with their chairs so they are aware of when the network may be down. The network installation upgrades will occur late evenings on Saturdays and the system will be back up by Sunday morning.
JL mentioned that some departments are running sub-networks for telephone and data connections behind the networks in IS&T. JL advised the deans to check with their college computer technicians to determine the scope of the sub-networks being run and report back to him. JL added that if jacks are required in the colleges, IS&T would offer a one-time amnesty program to install the jacks at their cost if the units agreed to get rid of hubs and install proper wiring for both data and voice.

Bob Moore asked about the status of the telephone upgrades and the lack of communication to the colleges on the upcoming changes. JL explained that the campus units will be notified of the upgrades and will be informed that their office telephone numbers will change. JL mentioned that the Office of Creative Services plans to offer discounts for the typesetting and printing charges that will be incurred with ordering new stationery and business cards.

Lauren Adamson inquired about problems she has experienced with Vista. JL reported that the Vista system is currently being migrated to Athens. The Board of Regent's Office of Information and Instructional Technology are planning informational sessions on campus to answer questions about the migration. The exact date has not been determined. JL will notify the deans when the sessions are scheduled.

**Branding the University - survey feedback**
Ron Henry distributed a handout showing the feedback received on branding the university. The handout highlighted the importance of an area, the satisfaction that the university is meeting the expectation, and any gaps in areas within the university. The professional community and other units in the university will be surveyed for feedback on branding. A suggestion was made to survey the new faculty coming this semester.

Ron Henry concluded the discussion by commenting that the university audience consists of our undergraduates, graduates, and alumni. The university will need to be consistent with a brand and develop better insights into marketing to our students and donors.

**Performance Indicators**
Ron Henry distributed a handout on performance indicators. The Board of Regents and the Governor's office will be emphasizing performance indicators for the University System of Georgia. The handout included indicators already in place and some potential indicators for discussion. Ron Henry added that this topic will stay on the agenda for further discussion.

**Any other business**
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.
Next meeting: Wednesday, August 24, 2005, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Golden Key Board Room, Student Center.