

**Academic Deans' Council Meeting**  
**December 13, 2007**

Present: Kay Clayton, Pam Trant, Robert Diersing, Jane Stanford, Bill Kuvlesky (representing Agriculture, Natural Resources and Human Sciences), Alberto Olivares, Jamie Laurenz, Bill Heenan, Ronn Hy, Maria Ayala-Schueneman, Dann Brown, Tom Fields, Carolyn Green

**I. Announcements/Discussion/New Business**

A. Gettie Moreno explained the productivity bonuses/merit payments to be given during the spring. The amount available is \$50,000 for faculty and \$50,000 for staff. The bonus/merit payments have to be entered into the payroll system by February 29, 2008. This is a one time payment and will not be included in a person's base pay. Gettie explained that staff bonus/merit payments will be based on a person's implementation of a new process; something that has developed in a money savings for the university; absorption of duties beyond their own. Deans and AVPs will decide on an equitable and fair way to apportion the bonus/merit payments for faculty. It was recommended that the bonus/merit payments be from \$50 to \$500.

B. Randy Hughes, Heather Elsik, Manuel Lujan, Gettie Moreno and Jay Zambrano explained scholarship information that has been disseminated to the colleges. The information is to help deans identify scholarships. The information includes donor related scholarships only. These scholarships will attract potential students with better credentials and will be targeted to have a greater impact on enrollment and will allow larger scholarship amounts to be disbursed. All scholarship information needs to be included in ScholarX for early awards and strategic packaging of awards.

C. The College of Business Administration is interested in the tuition guarantee that is being made available by the University of Texas-Pan American. The guarantee is for undergraduate students taking 15 hours and have a family annual income of \$25,000 or less. Texas A&M University-Kingsville can offer the same type of tuition guarantee, but Mr. Lujan feels there are better ways in which to package this type of award.

D. Admission requirements for Fall 2009 will include a requirement for students to have completed the Texas Recommended or Distinguished high school curriculum with required ACT/SAT scores.

E. Tom Fields reported on the recent Board of Regents, Chief Executive Officers, Chief Academic Officers and Chief Fiscal Officers meetings. The core curriculum proposed by TAMU-Kingsville was approved, along with the M.S. in Industrial Engineering by Distance Learning.



1. Risk management is evaluating building structures at TAMUS schools. They believe System buildings requirements need to go beyond present code requirements.

2. The Chancellor feels that all research and grant activities should be centralized.

3. Criminal background checks will probably be required in the near future for all faculty, staff, students and employees (who change positions). It was recommended that the university begin developing policies for criminal background checks.

4. Textbook prices were discussed. It was recommended that the System bring pressure on publishers.

5. The System is considering offering tenure in title only for doctors at the Health Science Center. It is believed that this will help with recruitment.

6. The lone finalist for the presidency at Texas A&M University is Dr. Elsa Murano.

F. The concept paper for a Wildlife Center at TAMIU was approved. This Center will concentrate on continuing education for ranchers in the Laredo area. No degree is being considered.

G. Dr. Clayton also reported on the Board of Regents and Chief Academic Officers meetings. Pierce Cantrel has been appointed CIO of the System working 80% for A&M and 20% for the System.

H. Ads for several presidency positions within the System have been developed with screening to begin January 22.

I. Jamie Laurenz reported on the Integrated Research Information System. The System is looking at research as a business. Beginning in 2008, an executive council will be developed to set policy for research administration. Membership on the council will include only people that have College Station office locations. All deadlines for research submissions will be very firm.

J. Information sheets were distributed regarding program plans for 2008-2009. Deans are to complete the information sheet and submit it to the Provost by January 15, 2008.



K. Alberto Olivares reported on the recent Graduate Education Advisory Council meeting. He distributed an overview of the GEAC's work. He noted that TAMU-K is one of two institutions who presently require plagiarism checks.

L. Funding of a team from A&M-K to attend the AAC&U Institute was discussed. It was felt that we need to have a policy that will require faculty to develop a mechanism to require assessment before we send a team to the Institute.

M. The College of Business Administration has developed a Position Statement regarding illegal copying of textbooks. Dr. Stanford explained that the CBA faculty felt they need a statement to include in each syllabus. She will send the statement to each dean, and it will also be discussed with the Senate.

N. Ronn Hy discussed Responsibility Centered Budgeting (RCB). The College of Arts and Sciences is planning to use this model for some of their discretionary funding. It will probably take about a year to completely develop the model.

O. Updated degree plans which include the newly approved core curriculum must be sent to Pam Trant before the end of January for inclusion in the next undergraduate catalog.

P. The Summer 2008 Exam Schedule was distributed for information purposes.

## **II. Dates/Deadlines to Remember**

- A. Commencement, December 14
  - 9:45 Practice
  - 4:00 Commencement Ceremonies
  - 7:00 Commencement Ceremonies
- B. General Faculty Meeting, January 14, 2008, Peacock Auditorium (BES 100)
  - 8:00 Refreshments
  - 8:30 Meeting
- C. Workshop with Connie Staley, January 14, 2008, 1:30 pm, MSU 219A
- D. Faculty and Administrator Customer Service Training - February 8

- E. ADC Workshop with Dee Fink - February 28, 2008 - 1:30 pm
- F. Faculty Workshop with Dee Fink - February 29, 2008 - all day