



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University**  
**Greensboro, North Carolina**  
**Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, February 21, 2014**  
**Alumni-Foundation Event Center**  
**Executive Board Room**  
**8:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair, Mrs. Faye Tate Williams, called the Academic Affairs Committee meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. She welcomed committee members and guests and thanked them for their attendance. She then asked for the roll call.

## **ROLL CALL**

Committee members present included Mrs. Faye Tate Williams; Mrs. Karen Collins, Mr. Tim Rice; Ms. Canisha Cierra Turner; Mrs. Patricia Miller Zollar; and Dr. Joe B. Whitehead, Jr., ex-officio member. Chancellor Harold Martin and Dr. Brian Sims, Faculty Senate President, were not in attendance.

Mrs. Williams asked other attendees in the meeting to introduce themselves. Other attendees included Dr. Barry Burks, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development; Mrs. Barbara Ellis, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology; Ms. Helen R. Haynes, Recorder; Mr. Earl Hilton, Director of Athletics; Dr. Scott Jenkins, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Affairs; Mrs. Akua Matherson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management; Dr. Beryl McEwen, Vice Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness; Dr. James Ryan, Dean of the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering; and Dr. Charles Waldrup, General Counsel. Mr. Michael Phippen from Black Triad News.com was also in attendance.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 22, 2013**

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 22, 2013 meeting, it was moved by Mr. Rice and seconded by Ms. Turner that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion carried.

## **DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES PROGRESS REPORT**

Dr. McEwen provided the progress report on the 2013-2014 strategic priorities. She shared the following:

#### **Priority 1: Enhancing Student Success**

The Early Alert System was pilot tested last semester and testing will continue this semester. The full implementation of the Early Alert System is fall 2014. The Office of Transfer Articulation has been established and is scheduled to open late spring semester 2014. The first-year retention rate is 79.77%, just below the goal of 80%. Undergraduate research has been strengthened and more services are now available to non-traditional students in the late evenings. The pilot for the

Aggie Hub continues, with expected implementation in fall 2014. Aggie Hub is a web portal for students that allows easy and quick access to services, e.g., food service, academic resources, blackboard, library service, versus searching through the website.

### **Priority 2: Enhancing Access to Educational Opportunities for Non-traditional Students**

Four online degree programs (Nursing, Information Technology, Liberal Studies and the Master of Arts in Teaching) have been submitted to UNC-GA for approval, and one off-site program at Randolph Community College was also submitted for approval. She also stated that six (6) graduate students have been hired to work as online course builders. Dr. McEwen also commented that the UNC Board of Governors signed a revised Comprehensive Articulation Agreement (CAA) between the UNC and Community College System, making college transfer options more defined and easier to follow.

### **Priority 3: Branding, Marketing and Fundraising to Advance the University**

The marketing and branding effort is in progress, work on fundraising has started, including identification of potential donors and training of deans and gift officers. The endowment distribution increased from \$500,000 to \$1.1 million, primarily to provide scholarships.

### **Priority 4: Ensuring Operational Efficiency**

Efforts to enhance operational efficiency include managed print services, outsourcing of the bookstore and a planned faculty workload study. Campus safety continues to be a priority, as is fiscal responsibility. Dr. McEwen shared that Business and Finance has provided \$1.8 million in additional scholarships primarily to support the Dowdy Scholars.

### **Priority 5: Engaging in Workforce Development for the Campus Community**

New faculty have been supported with start-up funds and continuing faculty have received professional development grants. She also shared that leadership workshops are planned for department chairs, and discussions on succession planning continue.

### **Priority 6: Community Engagement**

The Carnegie Community Engaged Campus application is due April 2014. The first award for faculty community engagement will be presented at the Spring 2014 awards ceremony. In addition, planning continues for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the university. The commemorative picture book is under development.

## **PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS**

### **JOINT SCHOOL OF NANOSCIENCE AND NANOENGINEERING**

Dr. James Ryan, Founding Dean of Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering (JSNN), provided highlights for the School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. The JSNN is made up of two departments, the Nanoscience (UNCG) and the Nanoengineering (NC A&T). He stated that NC A&T's Nanoengineering PhD degree program is one of four programs in the United States. He reminded everyone that the Master's Program in Nanoengineering was established in February 2011 and the Doctoral Program was established in October 2011. He also shared that the Nano-engineering program is larger and growing faster than its competitors and is on track to reach an enrollment of 50-60 students in Fall 2014. The first two PhDs are scheduled to graduate in December 2014. The JSNN goals for 2014 include (1) building new facilities, inclusive of self-assembly and computing labs; (2) obtaining a national level designation for research; (3) graduating its first two Nanoengineering PhD students; and (4) continuing to expand industrial and community outreach.

A member asked about the demand for Nanoengineers graduates. Dr. Ryan indicated that the opportunities are available for nanoengineers, particularly, in the areas in aerospace, electronics, pharmaceutical, and materials. He shared that JSNN will continue to expand the Nano-manufacturing Innovation Consortium; build up the Materials Test Center with Gateway; and expand industrial sponsored research. The JSNN Nanomanufacturing Innovation Consortium consists of 22 companies. He also shared that three out-of-state companies will be added. JSNN is continually working to develop innovative methods of funding education and research other than state and federal sources.

### **ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

Mrs. Akua Matherson provided updates on Enrollment Management. She shared that the final spring 2014 enrollment was 10,046, which included increases in new freshman and new transfers. However, we were under the total projected spring enrollment of 10,200. In funding, this translates to a shortfall of approximately \$200,000.

To date, there is an increase in fall 2014 freshman, transfers, master's and doctoral applications as well as admits to date. Mrs. Matherson also shared that, for the first time in several years, the data reveal that the instate GPA for new freshman students is higher than the out-of-state students. This is an indication that students are beginning to see A&T as a school of excellence rather than a school of access. The transfer applicant pool has increased as well, resulting in increased admits.

In February 2014, NC A&T was granted authority by the Board of Governors to move from the 18% cap on new out-of-state freshman to 25% instead of the requested 30%. Engineering students are not counted in the out-of-state percentage. Mrs. Matherson stated that this is a five-year pilot program with a year-by-year approval. NC A&T will have to submit a yearly report to General Administration. The reporting will include the economic impact (graduate school and/or employment) of out-of-state students on North Carolina's economy. Additional revenues generated from the increase in out-of-state students will be used to fund scholarships targeting in-state students. Funding can also be used for recruitment and retention efforts for all undergraduate students. As a part of this initiative, A&T will target out-of-state recruitment efforts towards disciplines of high need for economic growth and development in the state of North Carolina, such as STEM, Nursing, Agriculture and Education. Other positive benefits of this new authority include our ability to attract and enroll higher profile in-state students as we are able to offer more competitive scholarship packages.

Mrs. Matherson also stated that the new academic policies implemented by the University and General Administration will contribute to the success of our efforts. Student success will be monitored through the use of Blackboard, the Early Warning System and strong and effective advising. She concluded by saying that the Provost has encouraged deans and faculty to be more than advisors to students, encouraging them to be mentors to these students as well.

## **DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS**

Mr. Earl Hilton, Athletics Director, provided an update on the Department of Athletics. Academic Performance Rate (APR) began in 2003-2004, with a three-year grace period. He shared that the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics will have no teams in APR penalty for the 2014-2015 academic year. This is the first time since the inception of the APR that A&T has not had at least one team under NCAA academic sanction. The impact of being out of APP penalty is that all athletics teams can offer the full complement of scholarships and return to full practice schedules. He stated that they are pleased with the academic progress our student-athletes are making, but recognize there is still work to do. Mr. Hilton shared that companies such as ESPN and JC Penney are recruiting athletes due to attributes developed as college athletes.

## **DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. Barry Burks, Vice Chancellor for Research, indicated that Sponsored Research funding received during the first 6 months of the fiscal year was lower than last year by 9%. He stated that this reduction is primarily because of the Federal government shutdown in October 2013. He also shared that two patents were issued in Fiscal Year 2013. To date, they already have two patents issued in the first 6 months of Fiscal Year 2014; **and** 12 patents pending. Dr. Burks concluded by stating that the majority of proposals (85%) received involve faculty from a single department. However, he is encouraging faculty to work together to increase multi-disciplinary collaborations.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss, Mrs. Williams thanked the committee and adjourned the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Recorder:  
Helen R. Haynes  
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