



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Greensboro, North Carolina
Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 17, 2015
Alumni-Foundation Event Center
Executive Board Room
8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair, Dr. Bertram Walls, called the Academic Affairs Committee meeting to order at 8:08 a.m. Dr. Walls welcomed committee members and guests and thanked them for their attendance. He then asked for the roll call.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present included: Dr. Bertram Walls, Mrs. Karen Collins, Mr. Dorian Davis, Mr. Willie Deese, Mrs. Patricia Miller Zollar, Mr. Tim Rice, Dr. Tony Graham, Faculty Senate President, and Dr. Joe B. Whitehead, Jr., ex-officio member. Chancellor Harold L. Martin was not in attendance.

Dr. Walls asked other attendees in the meeting to introduce themselves. Other attendees included: Dr. Barry Burks, Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development; Dr. Darryl McGraw, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology; Ms. Helen R. Haynes, Recorder; Mr. Earl Hilton, Director of Athletics; Dr. Scott Jenkins, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs/Undergraduate Programs; Mrs. Akua Matherson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management; Dr. Alice Stewart, Interim Vice Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness; Dr. Sanjiv Sarin, Vice Provost and Dean of The Graduate School; Dr. Craig Rhodes, Special Assistant to the Provost-Faculty Affairs; and Dr. Charles Waldrup, General Counsel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 13, 2015

Committee Chair Walls entertained a motion for the approval of the February 13, 2015 minutes. A motion was offered by Mrs. Zollar and seconded by Mr. Rice. The motion carried unanimously.

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES PROGRESS REPORT

Dr. Alice Stewart, Interim Vice Provost for Strategic Planning and Institutional Effectiveness, summarized progress to date on the 2014-2015 strategic priorities. She shared the below highlights from the presentation:

Areas of Progress

1. The rollout for the "That's What Aggies Do!" campaign will have a soft launch in June 2015 and a full launch integrated with the University's 125th anniversary celebration.
2. The University implemented a student early warning system, Starfish, for monitoring undergraduate student performance.

Areas of Enhanced Progress

1. The University continues to make progress in enrollment, particularly in expanding articulation agreements with community colleges and attracting more transfer students.
2. The number of employees engaged receiving training and development has almost doubled over one year's time.
3. The University has continued to expand its impact in the region, the nation, and the world and has been recognized as the largest HBCU by U.S. News and World Report; awarded the Community Engagement classification by the Carnegie Foundation; and was named the 1890 University of the Year by the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities.
4. The University has invested in several significant enterprise service enhancements to improve day to day university operation, including technology infrastructure and a new student health facility.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

Mrs. Akua Matherson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management, presented an update on Enrollment Management. She shared the below highlights from her presentation:

1. New freshman admitted to date for fall 2015 is 3,285, and new transfer admits to date is 343. To date, 1,816 has indicated their intent to enroll.
2. The academic profile of newly admitted freshman continues to improve. For example, the average freshman GPA is 3.42; the SAT is 943; and the ACT is 20.
3. Undergraduate Admissions has several call campaigns targeting admitted students and incomplete application students.
4. The inaugural Scholars Day program was implemented, which resulted in 130 student attendees along with 250 parents. The average GPA of these students was 3.25; SAT 1000, and ACT 21.
5. The new plus/minus grading system was implemented fall 2014. Following the end of the fall semester, the university reviewed comparative data from the prior fall to assess the impact of the new grading system. The plus/minus system had minimal impact on grade distributions.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Dr. Charles Waldrup, General Counsel, presented the Revised Policy on Policies for approval by the Academic Affairs Committee. He shared that the revised policy provides clarification, especially on the review/approval process, policy format, and posting. Additionally, the revised policy treats Division of Research and Economic Development as a part of Academic Affairs for purposes of policy approval. The policy also discusses the nature of procedures and the posting of procedures and forms. The revised policy was vetted by the Cabinet, Faculty Senate and Deans. It was moved by Mrs. Zollar and seconded by Mr. Rice that the Revised Policy on Policies be approved for submission to the full board. The motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Mr. Earl Hilton, Athletics Director, provided the below updates on the Department of Athletics.

1. Mr. Hilton discussed the pending transfer of War Memorial Stadium from the City of Greensboro to North Carolina A&T, and stated that the plan is to effectuate the transfer by the end of this fiscal year.
2. Mr. Hilton also discussed the new Celebration Bowl, which will be televised on ESPN and feature the champions of the MEAC and SWAC football conferences.

DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Barry L. Burks, Vice Chancellor for Research and Development, presented a Resolution to discontinue the Center for Cooperating Systems for committee approval. The discontinuation was based on the recommendation of the Board of Governors.

1. The discontinuation of the Center for Cooperating Systems is based on lack of activity associated with this center for the past 3 years and the lack of funding to initiate future activity.
2. The Centers and Institutes policy, approved by the Board of Trustees on February 13, 2015 requires the Board approval for the discontinuation of a university center and/or institute.
3. It was moved by Mrs. Zollar and seconded by Mr. Rice that the discontinuation of the Center for Cooperating Systems be approved for submission to the full board. The motion carried unanimously.

In closing, Dr. Burks also stated that the university plans to complete reviews of all 18 centers and institutes this year. To date, 15 reviews have been completed.

DISCUSSION

Academic Restructuring Analysis Update

Provost Whitehead stated that the external committee for Academic Restructuring visited the campus on April 9-10, 2015. The committee met with faculty, staff, students, and administrators during their visit. The final report from the external committee will be completed within the next few weeks.

The on-campus phase of the Academic Restructuring Analysis Committee will then be launched with representation from school/college faculty, faculty senate members (2), student government association, graduate student association, as well as the staff senate association.

Framework for Normalizing Hours to Degree

The Provost shared data from UNC-GA regarding the comparison metrics. One metric is “attempted hours to degree.” The average for A&T is 155 credit hours for 2013-2014 graduates.

As a result, a thorough analysis will commence to minimize the required hours to degree, and thus, decrease attempted hours to degree from competitiveness and efficiency perspective.

PERSONNEL REPORT

CLOSED SESSION

Committee Chair Walls asked Atty. Waldrup to read the closed session statement required to enter into closed session. Atty. Waldrup read the closed session statement [N.C.G.S. §143.318.11(a)(6)]. A motion was made by Mrs. Collins, and seconded by Mr. Rice. The motion carried and the meeting proceeded to closed session.

Promotion and Tenure

In accordance with University policy, “Appendix B-2 Regulations on Academic Freedom, Tenure and Due Process”, personnel actions require Board of Trustees approval. A report containing 17 faculty members were recommended for promotion, tenure and promotion and/or tenure, effective July 1, 2015.

It was moved by Mrs. Collins and seconded by Mr. Rice that the 17 faculty members presented for promotion and/or tenure, effective July 1, 2015, be approved for recommendation to the full board. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further personnel matters, Committee Chair Walls entertained a motion to return to Open Session. A motion was offered by Mrs. Collins and seconded by Mrs. Zollar. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Recorder:
Helen R. Haynes