

Senior Staff Meeting
January 26, 2009
Meeting Notes

Attending: Theresa Aragon, Don Bantz, John Carmichael, Art Costantino, Lee Hoemann, Maryam Jacobs, Steve Hunter, John Hurley, Les Purce, Todd Sprague, Julie Suchanek, Allen Toothaker, Steve Trotter

Minutes

The notes from the previous meeting were approved.

Announcements

- Theresa Aragon reported that the Extended Education program featuring a Tai Chi master was very well attended, with people traveling from all over the region to attend.
- Lee Hoemann reported on the successful Scholarship reception.
- Steve Trotter reported on the Saturday symposium with local leaders focused on funding for green energy and sustainability projects.
- Les Purce reported on his attendance at the Barack Obama inauguration and the AACU Annual Meeting, where Don Bantz and others presented a well-received workshop.

Public Records

Maryam Jacobs joined the meeting to provide an update on Public Records requests. She shared the log of requests from the past year, noting that the number and complexity of requests has increased. At the same time, court decisions have raised the potential penalty to the college if we fail to respond to requests in a complete and timely fashion. Complying with the act can be time-consuming and resource intensive for staff throughout the college. Maryam asked the Senior Staff to emphasize the importance of timely and complete responses to public records requests.

Enrollment Update

Steve Hunter provided a final report on Winter quarter enrollment. The college is fully enrolled with a headcount of 4,540. Enrollment in the Tacoma program is up substantially and retention of non-resident students from fall to winter quarters looks normal. Steve estimates the annual average enrollment will be 4,213 FTE.

Steve also discussed applications for fall quarter. Applications are lagging for fall quarter compared to last year's historic highs. The group discussed admissions goals for spring quarter. In light of the soft numbers for fall, the group was inclined to continue admitting students for spring. Steve will bring the topic to the Strategic Enrollment Group for further discussion.

Legislative Update

Julie Suchanek described legislative hearings over the past week. She noted bills introduced that would eliminate board and commissions. She also described proposed changes to K-12 teacher salaries that would eliminate incentives for teachers to get an MIT or MEd degree.

Budget Discussions

Steve Hunter described the work of Strategic Enrollment Group. The group has considered the tuition levels authorized by the Governor's budget proposal. In the Governor's scenario, the group would recommend an increase each year of 7% for resident undergraduates, 5% for non-resident undergraduates and resident graduates, and 0% for non-resident graduates. Steve also described the work of the Deans to understand the effect of a 15% reduction scenario on the curriculum and faculty lines, given the Governor's proposal to maintain current enrollment levels. Allen Toothaker provided an update on layoff procedures. Todd Sprague described the format for Wednesday's campus budget forum.