



**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**October 18, 2012**

**12:45 P.M. in SKH 369**

**Present:** *Dr. Rich Miller, Dr. Wai Mok, Dr. David Neff, Dr. Mitch Berbrier, Dr. Ramon Cerro, Dr. Deborah Heikes, Dr. Sherri Messimer, Dr. Timothy Newman and Dr. Ina Warboys, Dr. Vistasp Karbhari*

**Absent:** *Dr. Jeet Gupta*

**Guests:** *Dr. Robert Altenkirch and Dr. Brent Wren*

- The meeting began with Dr. Rich Miller thanking everyone for attending. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. Altenkirch.
- **President Robert Altenkirch:** Dr. Altenkirch reported that the BETA Review committee had finished their work, showed a diagram and indicated where they were in the process. Dr. Miller was given a copy of the diagram. (Copy attached). Until the loop between the BETA Review Committee and EMOG is finished, the current policy is still in effect.

On the morning of October 23, the Board of Trustees will meet. Dr. Rob McFeeters and Dr. Jason Cassibry will make a presentation. Then the Board will take a tour of the Charger Hospital, Charger Park, CMSA and finally Rotorcraft Systems Engineering and Simulation Center (RSESC).

There is a Board of Trustees meeting on November 1 and 2. On the agenda is the purchase of University Place School. This topic is on the School Board's meeting tonight. If it is approved there, the UAH Board of Trustees will approve it. It is a sales purchase agreement which means we would make a deposit and ten percent of the purchase price until it is paid off.

University Place School will use the building until they build a new school. The closing date will be anytime between November 2, 2012 and 2018.

The appraisal UAHuntsville received was in the amount of \$2.857 million and was based on comparable sales. The seller's appraisal was \$5+ million and was based on cost minus depreciation. They met with an attorney and were not able to agree. A third option did work. Dr. Altenkirch took their appraisal and subtracted the maintenance items and the price came to \$4.7 million. Dr. Altenkirch stated that was his limit and they said 'ok'. A question was asked about the square footage. There is between 50,000 and 58,000 square feet in the building. However, there are 22 acres of land which stretches from University Drive to the back of Spragins Hall.

The financing involves the University's reserve fund for \$2.857 million and the University Foundation will contribute \$1.843 million as a no-interest loan. The University will pay reimburse the Foundation over five (5) years from recurring funds. At that point the Foundation can forgive the remainder of the debt.

The Board of Trustees agenda also includes selecting a financial person to oversee bonds for the finances for the Student Center and the Nursing Building. Bonding will be \$10 million and the State will earmark \$1 million which will be folded into the budget. A simulation hospital will not be included if \$13 million is raised; however, it will be included if \$17 million is raised. There will be an attempt to raise the \$6 million (\$17 million minus \$10 million). If we are unable to raise the difference, then we will look at taking it out of revenue.

The Board will also look into changing the Engineering degree titles.

The question was asked if there are any plans to fix the Engineering Building. Dr. Altenkirch stated that he did not know of any plans for that. He explained that a wall in Technology Hall had to be repaired and was very expensive to the sum of almost \$1 million.

The Commencement speaker will be the Secretary of the Smithsonian, Dr. Wayne Clough. His brother worked for Marshall Space Flight Center. The Space and Rocket Center is an affiliate of the Smithsonian.

The Enrollment Management Committee is a liaison to the colleges for the overall plan to increase enrollment to 10,000 students. Dr. Rich Miller and Dr. Derrick Smith serve on this committee. The tuition has been raised 8+% and we need to do something else to help offset expenses rather than raise tuition according to Dr. Altenkirch.

There was discussion about rumors that are out there stating that Calhoun Community College is easier than UAHuntsville. If a student takes one course at Calhoun, they can be admitted to UAHuntsville as a transfer student. However, the course is not really the same. We want to do what's best for the student and it's not always measured in dollars.

Dr. Altenkirch cautioned that we must be very careful communicating a message that Calhoun has lesser quality than UAHuntsville.

There is a bill on the agenda today that addresses GER Integrity Rule.

A question was raised about the analysis of students in Engineering that have taken their Math class at Calhoun and how that affected their upper level Engineering course. They do not do poorly in the upper level classes. Sometimes it just comes down to money. Dr. Messimer stated that she has offered Calhoun to some students as an option but has never encouraged them to go there.

The subject of the analysis of charging less arose. Dr. Altenkirch said that the change would have to be so drastic and it would not be good. It would be a huge financial issue to UAHuntsville. You must be careful how you do it. It appears that cost is the reason the students are having difficulty. We need to give them something substantially different at UAHuntsville that they cannot get at Calhoun. Are we providing the level of education in the first two years for students to make it worth it for them?

The budget review process needs to address some financial issues. Unless we grow enrollment, we will have issues down the road. The question of decoupling our tuition came up. Tuition is not the same within the UAH System. The University of Alabama had an increase in Fall enrollment and they had more out-of-state students enroll than in-state students.

Looking at our assets, we have the Redstone Arsenal, NASA, BSA as well as other industry that UA does not have. We need to push internships and jobs. Dr. Altenkirch met with the new mayor of Madison and they discussed the students at UAHuntsville and the Enrollment Management Effort. The idea would be to hook the students early and help them through the college experience and finding a job. It would require extra work but would be worth it.

Dr. Altenkirch talked about working with the Co-op program in general. Dr. Karbhari stated that many companies just do not have openings right now. Another comment was made regarding our returning military and the fact that they should get credit for what they have done. Veterans currently have to take the First-Year Experience class which has been a disaster. We do have to be careful on giving credit for life experience. The committee can work with Dr. Karbhari on that.

We have signed up for the Yellow-Ribbon Program. There are certain scholarship requirements. However the program allows UAH to get paid for the difference in our tuition and the highest tuition in the state.

- **Provost Vistasp Karbhari**: Dr. Karbhari discussed the Certificate in Foreign Language and Global Engagement. He talked about Workplace an online training. It takes about 60-90 minutes to complete and the participant is sent a certificate at the end. Information would be sent in a week or so to the faculty. It is a required course by the Federal government.

The Center for Teaching Excellence needs to get to Dr. Karbhari as soon as possible.

There was discussion on the pharmaceutical company, Stanford vs. Roche. The Supreme Court sided with Roche. The verbiage needs to state 'I hereby assign. . .' and not 'the inventor will assign. . .' There needs to be an adjustment in policy to use the word 'hereby'.

Dr. Altenkirch explained that a non-disclosure agreement refers to a narrow period of time and does not include 30 years of experience you gain from the University. Dr. Newman stated that the faculty would have a problem with that. With the question of who owns intellectual property, he said that 'our experience is ours.'

- **Dr. Brent Wren** gave a BETA Policy update. Ramon Cerro and Derrick Smith served on the committee. They incorporated a lot of issues. Dr. Wren stated that it is a living document open to revision. The comment was made that most faculty and staff do not know about the policy. Before making the policy public, it needs to go through the whole process. The idea was presented that an open forum could take place and discuss the existing policy. The new policy needs modification but the philosophy is basically the same between the old policy and the one currently being updated. The BETA Team got the policy today and should move fast. A diagram was given to Dr. Rich Miller and one is attached to these minutes. Dr. Altenkirch said that since the policy is in place there is no sense to have a forum and then in a month change it.
- Dr. Altenkirch and Dr. Karbhari left the meeting at 1:35.
- Dr. Tim Newman stated that Dr. Altenkirch's comments on intellectual property bothered him and that they need to stay on top of it. He believes that 'you own your experience and future products.' He gave an example that Dr. Altenkirch was hired from NJIT. Because of his experience there, do we owe NJIT? UAH has a generous policy. All the 'i's are dotted and the 't's are crossed. There was a good bit of discussion on intellectual property. Dr. Rich Miller stated that we must protect ourselves.

Some have contempt for the faculty. The comment was given to give Carmen Scholz a heads up.

- The Ad Hoc Research committee has met once and discussed what Dr. Miller gave them.

There are some legal questions on signing documents.

- Dr. Rich Miller commented that UAH enrollment has been flat for years and he does not understand the Enrollment Management Committee. Most of the committee is staff and not faculty. Are they helping enrollment for all colleges? Some colleges may get crushed in this. Dr. Altenkirch is concerned about enrollment. It was emphasized that the committee is operational and not a strategic planning. Rich Miller will try to get more information.
- There was discussion on the Library Director Search Committee and the career ladder for employees in the Library. Those recommended by Rich Miller for that committee included Jim Miller, R. Webber and P. Bitzer. He objected to the people the administration would put on there.
- Digital Measures has been purchased. Dr. Rich Miller and Dr. Mitch Berbrier are impressed by what's online. The provost has been contacted for a meeting to find out who has access, etc. That meeting is on November 5, 2012. Dr. Rich Miller requested that this not be shared until specifics are known.
- HERS Bryn Mawr Summer Institute announcement has gone out. Rich Miller has a problem with the University wanting you to go but not paying for travel. He said the provost said that them paying the registration costs is a statement of their commitment. The registration fee is \$6,900. However, not paying for travel is ridiculous. At the Senate meeting next Thursday, questions could be asked about this.

- As for the Director of the Library position, it is not an academic appointment. The question was raised as to how they can supervise faculty if they are not one. They could present their argument to the Provost.
- The subject of the *Handbook* and Bylaws was presented. If you have changes to the *Handbook* and Bylaws, you need to submit them in advance. It needs to be well thought out and not quick decisions. Dr. Rich Miller wants copies of proposed changes beforehand on *Chapter 9*. However, that is not necessary on the Bylaws yet. There may need to be an extra meeting to move it faster. If they are not going to finish it, they need to let the faculty know. The Bylaws are a part of the *Handbook*. There are some inconsistencies and wording that are issues for Human Resources. The inconsistencies must be addressed by legal. Legal has terms in health care that passed.

➤ **Committee reports were then given.**

Faculty and Student Development: Dr. Ina Warboys met with the CIO. As for the Center for Teaching Excellence, they agreed it's ok to implement. The Committee reviewed it.

Governance and Operations: Dr. Sherri Messimer talked about a new model of instruction, a meeting on November 8, technical issues, they are already seven and one-half weeks into the term and they have not seen any results.

Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs: Dr. Deborah Heikes did not have a report. She will talk to Alan Constant about complaints.

Personnel: Dr. Ramon Cerro stated that they are having a difficult time getting together. He has asked people to send comments. There was discussion that the Nursing person could not meet on Tuesday and Thursday and may need to be replaced. He will look in the *Handbook* and find out about a proxy. Dr. Warboys explained that the Nursing representative had clinicals on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

President-Elect: Dr. Mitch Berbrier had no report.

- Several people (Deborah Heikes, David Neff and Wai Mok) had to leave; and, therefore, there was not a quorum so the bills could not be voted on. There was some talk that if the order of the agenda was reversed, they could address issues that required a quorum.
- The Executive Committee goal is to set the agenda for the Senate.
- The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

*Minutes recorded by Lynn Bell*