Executive Council Meeting

March 13, 2008, 3:00 pm, UW2 327

Present: Constantin Behler, Steve Collins, Bill Erdly, Dan Jaffe, Nancy Place, Gowri Shankar, Suzanne Sikma

Absent: Mike Stiber

Guests: Ann Cox, Jill Orcutt and Don Whitney

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

Reports of Officers

A. Chair - Mike - no report.

B. Vice-Chair - Dan

Dan reported on the budgeting process and setting priorities for 2008-09, he serves on the UWB Planning and Budget Committee. The UWB budgeting process is setting campus enrollment as the main priority.

Brad Lister will be on campus Wednesday, March 19. He will be meeting with the STEM Task Force and a group of first-year science and math faculty organized by Dan to discuss teaching math and science. The EC will also have lunch with Brad and a public presentation is planned. These meetings could add to our campus conversations on STEM planning and also how to organize our first year hire of adjuncts.

Announcement: Congratulations to Gowri Shankar! Gowri has been awarded the 2008 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Approval of EC minutes of February 14 and 28, 2008

EC minutes of February 14 and 28, 2008 will be reviewed at the next EC meeting.

Reports from programs

A. Business - no report

B. CSS - no report

C. Education - no report

D. IAS - no report
E. Nursing - no report

Reports of Committees

A. Campus Council on Academic Standards and Curriculum - no report.

Dan shared information with the EC on the RCEP process and academic planning. UWB and UWT Chancellors are responsible for curriculum at their campuses, UWB course approvals may not need to go through the UW Curriculum Committee in the future.

B. Campus Council on Promotion, Tenure and Faculty Affairs - no report.

C. Instructional and Research Support Committee

Nancy reported on agenda items that the IRSC will be working on Spring Quarter. The first item will be the TLC, Becky has not had an advisory board for the last few years and welcomes input from the IRSC. Cynthia Fugate will bring the TLC budget materials to the next IRSC meeting for the committee to review. The EC provided feedback to the IRSC concerning some thought on evaluating the TLC’s role on campus.

EC discussion

- It may be helpful to incorporate feedback from faculty whose students use the TLC.
- Biology, chemistry and calculus have very specific needs, is the TLC and QSC set up to support these needs? There is currently no way to schedule an appointment with advisors, this can be a barrier for students needing assistance.
- Should advisors be associated with courses taught?
- Is the TLC and QSC the most effective way to support students in specific areas?
- What criteria do we use to evaluate the best use of our resources in support of students?
- Could graduate students be a resource to help undergraduate students?
- In our expansion and growth, will we want graduate/masters programs in STEM? What do we need for our students to be successful? The support needs to be there.

Old business

A. Discussion on outcomes from academic planning.

Ann Cox opened discussion on academic planning with the first draft of the "Building UWB: A 21st Century Public University, UWB Academic Priorities Plan 2008-2020". This document compiles the outcomes of the academic planning workshops and planning activities, incorporating feedback from faculty and staff. Ann outlined the timeline for a final report to be completed by May 31. The EC reviewed the document and focused on critical wording of the academic priorities. Issues on diversity and how we are framing our key values at every step must be considered. Critical to our planning efforts is academic prioritization and student services prioritization, with justifications for the resources needed to support these priorities. Ann raised the idea of a faculty/staff sub-group to guide the planning over the next few years.
EC discussion

- Should there be a separate steering committee for the implementation of the academic plan?
- Should a subcommittee of EC work on implementation?
- Both undergraduate and graduate enrollment growth must be specified in the report.
- Graduate/Masters level program growth should be supported.

EC motion

The EC supports the general direction in the draft of the Academic Priorities Plan and supports the proposed approach for implementation. We request that Vice Chancellor Susan Jeffords draft a charge letter for the creation of a Social Science Task Force for consideration by the EC. Dan called the motion, Gowri seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

B. Proposed changes to CUSP charter - will be reviewed at the next EC meeting.

New Business

A. RCEP Process

Dan provided further information on the RCEP process in the context of our academic planning and reorganization with STEM. How faculty and programs are reorganized at UWB could be affected by the RCEP process, especially if a new STEM unit is created. A review committee, the UW Senate Committee on Planning and Budget has a key role in decision making involving RCEP. All of the UWB programs and the EC will be involved in any RCEP decisions here as consistent with the Faculty Code, Section 26 - 41.

EC meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm
The next meeting will be April 3, 2008
Minutes submitted by Barbara Van Sant