

Provost Council
May 18, 2011
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
MB 3.106 Regents' Room

AGENDA

RETIRED FACULTY ASSOCIATION

MARIAN MARTINELLO
JUDITH WALMSLEY

The newly elected president and secretary of the recently formed Retired Faculty Association (RFA) met with the council members to introduce the association. The secretary, Dr. Walmsley gave a brief overview of how the association came into existence. She had approached Dr. Frederick regarding her own interest in remaining active at the university even though she had already retired. Dr. Frederick then asked if she, Dr. Dennis Haynes and Dr. Ray Baird would form a committee to look into creating a Retired Faculty Association and to come up with a list of perks that would come with being a member of the RFA.

An initial luncheon was planned and attended by retired faculty who live in the San Antonio area. As interest has grown, the need for a MOU has resulted so that the RFA can be an official UTSA organization. The members have developed a mission statement which says the organization has been formed for retired faculty in order to continue interacting with the UTSA and surrounding community and to offer advice to the administration. Dr. Martinello stated that as soon as the MOU has been finalized, the RFA would like to host a faculty reception to formally announce the creation of the RFA. She further stated that the RFA is interested in hosting a special ceremony with students who receive scholarships that are funded by faculty. She will be contacting the colleges to obtain that information. Finally, Dr. Martinello mentioned that with the assistance of Rebecca Luther, the Provost's communications coordinator and Ray Padillo, a retired faculty member, a website will be created and will contain useful information for faculty.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE

**GEORGE NORTON,
JENNIFER EHLERS,
MARISOL SCHEER, AND
LISA FIRMIN**

The Admissions staff, along with Associate Provost, Lisa Firmin, provided an update on admissions to the university and upcoming recruitment opportunities. Dr. Norton mentioned that the UTSA Enrollment Management Plan has six driving statements. Two of the six include: “attract and enroll undergraduates who are better prepared for college success” and “maintain the diversity of the student population.” Dr. Norton provided a hand-out which included data on enrollment goals and current trend indicators. At this time, UTSA has 17% more freshman applications for Fall 2011 and 4% more freshman admissions for Fall 2011. Further at this time, 17.2% of Fall 2011 freshman admissions are in the top 10% of their class, whereas of the freshman enrolled in Fall 2010, 10% were in the top 10% of their class. We are seeing higher percentages in the top 15% and top 25% of their class being admitted for Fall 2011. This is part due to the new enrollment plan which automatically admits a freshman who is ranked in the top 10% of his/her high school class. Also, being ranked in the top 25% of his/her high school class with a SAT score of 960 and an ACT score of 20 earns an automatic admission to UTSA. All other students will undergo an individual holistic review. We have also moved up our deadline for admission from July 1st, to June 1st. Lastly, our diversity percentages comparing Fall 2010 enrolled freshman and Fall 2011 admitted freshman are similar and demonstrate our commitment to diversity.

Ms. Ehlers, Scheer and Firmin, reviewed the recruitment plan for the Class of 2012 and beyond. During the 2010-2011 academic year, UTSA introduced the Top Scholar dinner which invited freshman who had been admitted to UTSA by mid-January and ranked in the top 20% of their senior class and who had a SAT score of at least 1040 and ACT score of at least 24. Of the 700 invitations that we sent out, 83 attended along with their family. Deans and faculty also attended to interact with students and encourage them to register. As of today, 64% of those students have registered for Orientation, which is a good indicator for enrollment.

Other opportunities for recruitment include interacting with planned summer activities and camps and inviting prospective students to academic events/lectures which can showcase the university and hopefully lead to student enrollment. The Deans were asked to follow-up with Lisa Firmin.

The Admissions Department will again partner with Texas State University to host events in other cities, such as Houston and Dallas, and target high school counselors. This past academic year, several Deans accompanied our recruiters and Lisa Firmin is asking for interested Deans to contact her by August 15th.

Two new events that are being considered are an on-campus event for high school counselors and offering a classroom experience for prospective students. The on-campus event is designed to invite counselors for a 2 day event that showcases the colleges and the entire university. The classroom experience is designed to invite prospective undergraduates to attend a mock classroom with faculty volunteers. More information will be forthcoming.

STUDENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

JOHN KAULFUS

The Associate Dean of Students, John Kaulfus provided an update regarding football game day activities and Roadrunner Days. Currently, his staff is working on a football game day website, which should be available on June 1st. There are several activities that are in the planning stage. Each Friday night before a home game, the Riverwalk will offer Roadrunners on the River. This event will include the band, cheerleaders, etc.—basically, a pep rally on the eve of home games. Game Day activities include: RowdyTown, which will be family-oriented and include a band, inflatable play areas and a carnival atmosphere. Sunset Station will be host to Roadrunner Station and includes food and drinks, bands and fundraisers for UTSA organizations.

Tailgating will be allowed for those who have purchased parking passes. However, it will be limited space. John mentioned that one of the sororities has an agreement with a Dick's Last Resort to host a larger tailgate party. John also mentioned that those who wish to tailgate could approach one of the restaurants along the Riverwalk or a business near the Alamodome and rent their parking lot. This, and more information, will be on the above-mentioned website.

John discussed transportation to the games. He is currently in meetings with Via to offer park-n-ride from Lot 5 at the 1604 campus. Currently, the option is to begin transporting fans at 9:30 a.m. and then transport back to Lot 5 2 hours after the game has ended. Park-n-Rides will also be available to the public from Crossroads Mall and from a venue on the Southside and hopefully from a venue around the

281/1604 corridor. The Downtown campus currently has service between the campus and the Alamodome, but we are looking at adding additional service. The cost of a round trip park-n-ride will be \$2.50 for students and \$5.00 for the public.

John then discussed a few changes to Roadrunner Days and Homecoming. Roadrunner Days begins with Fall Convocation which has been moved up to 9:30 – 10:30. Following the convocation, the students will meet with their respective colleges, beginning at 10:45. Upon suggestions from student focus groups, the colleges will no longer be providing lunch for the students. The university was spending \$22,000 on box lunches and the students did not believe that this was the best way to utilize funds. Instead, Aramark will prepare coupons that students can use to dine at the venues located on campus. COA and COPP students will be transported to the Downtown campus for their orientations and will be transported back to the 1604 campus so they can utilize their coupons. Other activities such as the President's Picnic and Bar-b-que are planned for Wed., Aug. 24th. A Roadrunner Days website has been designed and is up and running as of today:

<http://www.utsa.edu/roadrunnerdays/>

Homecoming will occur on Sept. 24th. The biggest change, aside from being moved from the Spring (basketball season) to the Fall to coincide with football, is that there will be homecoming activities the entire week, including a Howdy Rowdy pep rally.

RESEARCH UPDATE

BOB GRACY

The Vice President for Research, Dr. Bob Gracy presented the Council with a spreadsheet regarding the San Antonio Life Science Institute (SALSI) budget and expenditures. Each PI is listed along with their college, awarded amount, FY10 and FY11 expenses, FY11 encumbrances, ending balance and percentage remaining. Dr. Gracy asked the Deans to assist with asking each PI to expense/spend their funds before Aug. 31, 2011 or they risk having the monies swept from their accounts. SALSI is funded by ARRA money and the federal government requires the use of funds by Aug. 31st.

FAIR & FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS

SANDY WELCH

Dr. Welch informed the Council that some departments and colleges are not following the guidelines of having qualified faculty teaching our courses. She distributed an outline regarding faculty qualifications as a reminder and asked for assistance in adhering to our policies.

Dr. Welch also handed out screen shots of the FAIR module to demonstrate how a faculty member can set up their Vita and customize section titles.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOHN FREDERICK

1. Continuing conversation regarding establishing an undergraduate research office hopefully under the Vice President for Research. Possibly using the Learning Communities models of grouping students together. The desire is to create scholarships (possibly using some of the McKinney funds) to award to students interested in research. May set up a committee to discuss this further.
2. Briefly discussed the Freshman Experience Task Force report and encouraged those who have not read it to take the time as it offers important recommendations. One of the recommendations is to use a block schedule for writing and math classes. Then create small cohorts using this block schedule. Dr. Frederick stated that he plans to create an implementation committee as he would like for the recommendations to take effect Fall 2012. A suggestion was made that we could pilot a program with the undeclared majors.
3. Dr. Frederick also mentioned the Chancellor's presentation to the Board of Regents last week where he implored the Regents to allow each president the ability to manage their respective university.

The next Provost Council meeting is scheduled for Wed., June 15th at 3:00.