

**Provost Council**  
**Sept. 22, 2011**  
**3:00 PM – 5:00 PM**  
**MB 3.106 Regents' Room**

**AGENDA**

**RECRUITING UPDATE**

George Norton, Daniel Ayala and Lisa Firmin provided an update on our students and recruiting efforts. The 2011 incoming freshman class numbers were similar to those in 2010. However, based on the student's high school class rankings, this freshman class seems more prepared for the rigors of college. In 2010, 44% of the freshman class was from the 25% percentile. In 2011, the percentage rose to 50%. However, it was noted that the SAT scores from 2010 to 2011 had not changed. Also, the race/ethnicity categories are very similar to last year. George Norton reminded the Provost Council of the recent admissions policy changes. The top 25% of a high school class is automatically admitted to UTSA. Students in the second quartile (26% - 50%) must receive a 960 SAT score in math and reading for an automatic admission. Students in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quartile are individually reviewed for admission. There are changes ahead for transfer admissions. Currently, a student must have 30 semester credit hours and a GPA of 2.0 to be admitted to UTSA. In 2013, the GPA rises to 2.25. These changes are in keeping with the Enrollment Management Plan as well as the UTSA 2016 Strategic Plan.

Daniel Ayala discussed the ongoing recruitment efforts which include inviting high school counselors to various meetings across the state. These meetings allow our recruiters to update information and answer any questions the counselors may have. The recruiting/admissions office is extending invitations to counselors to spend a day at UTSA so that they can see all of the changes that have been occurring recently on campus. Daniel also mentioned that UTSA Day will be Nov. 12, 2011—this is an open house type atmosphere for prospective students and their parents. Daniel also mentioned that our JUMP program (our version of the CAP program with Alamo Colleges, specifically Northwest Vista) is working very well as students are able to get acclimated to the rigors of a college education—they are better prepared when they transfer to UTSA. Daniel further stated that the admissions office is working on additional articulation agreements with community colleges in Dallas, Houston, Austin and the Valley.

Lisa Firmin discussed the upcoming Top Scholars dinner which is scheduled for Jan. 27, 2012. She stressed to the Deans how successful this event was last year and that she will need their assistance as well as faculty to ensure another successful dinner. Lisa further mentioned that the Honors College approached her about letting them give a presentation to the students prior to dinner. She then opened the discussion with the rest of the Deans to see if they wanted to host college presentations as well. There were several good ideas mentioned, such as having an academic fair in the Ballroom, so that the students could visit each booth. Lisa

mentioned that 74% of the students that attended last year's Top Scholars dinner enrolled in UTSA for the Fall 2011 semester.

## **MYEDU CORPORATION PARTNERSHIP**

Dr. Frederick handed out a letter that Dr. Romo received from the UT System Chancellor regarding a new partnership between the UT System institutions and MyEdu Corporation. MyEdu is a technological platform that allows the university to communicate with its students in the areas of registration, advising, degree planning, etc.) A planning committee has already been established at the UT System offices and the Chancellor needs each campus to name a liaison that will be responsible for developing their respective campus' plan. After consulting with other Vice Presidents and Dr. Romo, it was determined that Ken Pierce, Vice Provost for Information Technology and CIO will be UTSA's liaison. Dr. Larry Williams, Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Studies will assist Ken as needed.

## **RESEARCH UPDATE**

Dr. Gracy, Vice President for Research reported that the preliminary numbers for 2010-2011 indicate that UTSA had \$55.6 million in research expenditures which \$78 million in sponsored projects. He further stated that SALS I did not receive any funding for 2011-2012 from the state budget. He also stated that the federal government will not renew the ARRA funding, so this year may be difficult for our faculty/researchers to find grant money.

Dr. Marianne Woods and Dr. Jim Casey handed out a draft memo regarding new internal deadlines for grant submissions. Because the grant system has moved to an electronic format, it is far from perfect—sometimes the systems are slow or they are not working and faculty members are waiting until the last minute to upload their proposals. In order to assist in facilitating the review, approval and submission procedures, a 5 work day deadline will be established for the budget portion of the proposal so that all approvals may be obtained. Then 2 days before the submission deadline, the remaining documents must be submitted. The separate deadlines will allow faculty extra time to work on the technical narrative portion of the proposal. Dr. Woods stated that most Tier 1 universities have a 10 working day deadline, but she believed a 5 working deadline could work for UTSA. Drs. Woods and Casey stated that the business affairs office reviewed the draft and suggested that a 30 day review be implemented for space and facilities review and approval. However, if the grant does not have space/facilities implications, then this deadline is not applicable.

The Deans proposed that there should only be one deadline for the budget and the narrative and agreed 5 working days is doable. As for the 30 day space/facility deadline, the Deans proposed that there should be a box on the routing form to include Julius Gribou as he oversees the space management for academic affairs. The Deans asked if a pre-notification clause could be added and that it have a 10 working days deadline. The purpose of the pre-notification clause is to alert reviewers of an upcoming grant that needs to be reviewed. No decision was made on this addition.

Dr. Marianne Woods distributed a copy of the UTSA Handbook of Operating Procedures Chapter 10.02—Misconduct in Research or in Other Scholarly Activities. She stated that this is an updated policy which

conforms to the UT System model. She further stated that if you need to look up a policy regarding research, you will find them in the HOP under chapter 10.

Dr. Jim Casey gave a presentation on the changes to the 1995 Conflict of Interest Regulations, UT System Proposed Policy and the impact to UTSA. A few changes that he highlighted include:

If required by UT System, the addition of a website available to the public to allow access to information concerning the grant and its activity for a period of three years. (PHS agencies do not require a website)

A retrospective review to determine if a financial conflict of interest, if found, resulted in research bias with 120 days of the determination of the noncompliance.

The UTSA on-line financial conflict of interest form will need to be updated to reflect the changes. Dr. Casey also stated that the new regulations will require UTSA to disclose faculty appointments and reimbursements, such as travel. He further stated that students working on a grant will need to follow the PHS regulations.

Dr. Gracy distributed an article from *Issues in Science and Technology* entitled “Reforming Regulation of Research Universities.” He encouraged the Deans to read the article as it contained a lot of useful information.

The next Provost Council meeting is scheduled for Wed., Oct. 19, 2011.