Council of Deans

Unapproved Minutes

February 26, 2001

Members:

McKellips
Atwater
Burgess
Dawe
Goode
Harrison
Neale
O'Keeffe
Soelle
Young

Also Present:

Tom Sutherlin, Director of Assessment and Planning
Keith McIsaac, Information Technology Services

1. Meeting began with a demonstration by Goode and Keith McIsaac, Information Technology Services, of a wireless laptop. McKellips stated that it is essential we move ahead in our planning. In the not too distant future, a lot of our students will be carrying their own laptops and we need to make a way for them to connect. This is the only reasonable way to do it. Everybody needs to look at what they will be doing with computing in their areas.

2. McKellips stated that he and Ray Friedl have had a discussion about some of the programs that ASCOG sponsors.

a. It occurred to McKellips that based on some of the things they talked about we might be able to solve a problem or at least make some contribution to the problem in Goode's area that we have had over the last several years of not being able to hire technicians that are formally trained. We hire students and other people that have a little bit of knowledge and work them into our technician force at a very low level and then just train them on-the-job over the years. What we do is train people to be competent to do our jobs.
b. McKellips asked Friedl if we formalize that training a little bit more, would that be a program they could help us with. He said that under their rules that would be a training program and they could give us money to help pay more of those kinds of people; it would be no problem.

c. There are a lot of different kinds of things we do at Cameron that would qualify for funding under their categories of people. One significant category is for displaced workers which includes military discharges. They discharge like 350 a month at Fort Sill. The only ones of those retirees that would not be eligible would be the ones whose MOS qualify them for immediate employment. That probably comes out to about zero. Most all of them would be qualified as displaced workers. McKellips believes that virtually every degree program we have at Cameron would qualify as training programs and therefore qualify all those people who fit in some category to receive some support, so long as the program provides training for them that better qualifies them for the work force.

d. McKellips stated that what he wants from this group, is the name of the programs that we want included in our list of programs that we will use to recruit people into this deal. A document, "Workforce Development Program" was distributed. McKellips has come up with a format and if this is not a good format, let him know - E-mail him. He would like our list of available programs at Cameron laid out in the format that was distributed. We will then publish it along with advertising the existence of this program. Discussion followed.

e. Harrison stated that ASCOG is not in the education business; they are in the job business and so they would like whatever they receive from us with regard to the university's use of their services and funds, to be job related in some form rather than just education for its own sake. The results of these programs should provide job skills, like technology degrees. McKellips stated that he tried to reflect that in Item 6. McKellips stated that he doesn't mean to try to limit this to technology programs. The Library is also a place where we can develop a training program. We could use one-half time people and they could be funded through this. Student workers would qualify immediately. Help-desk type people and graphic designers are other possibilities. Discussion followed.

f. McKellips stated that he feels this deal has a lot of potential for us to help a lot of students and to help ourselves. He understands there is 2-1/2 million dollars available for this program for the next 15-18 months. Harrison stated that another 2 million will be coming up beginning in July.

g. Question was asked what is the best way to find people to enter this program. Reply was that there will be several approaches to it. We will first need to get the document put together and we will need to get someone in Student Services involved with recruitment for this program. We will need a mechanism to assess the program to see that the people we are putting through these programs really do get better jobs or get a job. We also need someone to coordinate the recruiting effort but McKellips is not sure how we will do that. There may be some possibility if we can put this together right away that ASCOG will provide some support for those services.

h. Harrison stated that this money has been around for several years and has gone exclusively to the Vo-Tech schools because those institutions provide the most direct route to provide employment skills within the two year period of time. We would advertise this in a variety of ways - in public schools, among our student body, among our staff who are already working on campus but may be looking to upgrade their careers, or part-time workers. Train up the people who work in the out-processing center at Fort Sill so that all of those 300 they move out can have the opportunity to apply to Cameron for training or go to Vo-Tech for air conditioning and heating.
i. Question was asked if faculty members will have to track these students and sign off on some sort of report. Reply was that they will have some sort of reporting procedure. Discussion followed.

j. Statement was made that certificate programs have become more and more popular nationwide. Certificate programs work well in parallel to degree programs where a student has the option to take the certification exam and exit into the workforce. All the job related certificate programs will be eligible for what we have been discussing. It was mentioned that the greatest need across the nation is special education. In talking with 75 superintendents, everyone came back with special education being the greatest need over the next 5 years. This would be an opportunity to get a certificate in special education. Discussion followed.

k. McKellips stated that we already have an agreement with ASCOG. There is no deadline on getting this to Friedl but the sooner we get this together the sooner we will be able to get some help with salaries from this source of funds.

3. McKellips stated that Tom Sutherlin is here today to talk about the names of degrees that are being offered at this institution being consistent with the names of the degrees that we have authorized by the State Regents. We have been using majors, concentrations and options willy-nilly without any correlation to what has been approved by the State Regents. We have allowed that but we should be consistent on how we use those because students may be going through a program and think they will be getting a degree with a major in something they really are not. What we are trying to do today is raise the level of your awareness so that we can get this right in the new catalog so that our degree programs will be consistent with what the State Regents has approved.

a. Sutherlin distributed several documents: (1) Instructional Programs Ordered by Program Code; (2) Proposed revisions to the catalog listing of degrees offered; (3) Present catalog index showing inconsistencies. (4) The Degree Program Review Schedule.

b. Sutherlin explained the information on each of the handouts and discussions were held when questions were asked.

COMMENTS

Burgess - No comment.

Harrison - No comment.

Young - Has a list ready for the departments to look at for the serials evaluation project. She will be going to the departments to give them the list and then someone from the Library will work with them.

Goode - No comment.
Dawe - No comment.

O'Keeffe - No comment.

Soelle - No comment.

Neale - No comment.

Dawe - No comment.

Adjourned 12:26 p.m.