Academic and Student Affairs, Personnel and Legislative Committee Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2008

10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Board Members Present

Rev. Leon Finney, Jr., Ph.D., Chairman
Mrs. Peggy A. Montes
Mr. Juwaun Sutton, Student Representative

Others Present

Mr. Katey Assem, Interim Director of Foundation
Mr. Eugene Barnes, Barnes and Associates
Dr. Rosalyn Brown,
Mr. Mark Durham, Director of Alumni Affairs
Dr. Beverly John, Interim Vice President
Dr. Lawrence McCrank, Dean of the Library
Dr. Sandra Westbrooks, Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs

Roll Call and Verification of Meeting Notice

Chairman Finney called the meeting order. A quorum was verified. Dr. Erma Brooks Williams verified that the meeting notice had been posted 48 hours before the meeting.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

With a few corrections, the meeting minutes of the April 23, 2008 meeting were approved.

Information Items

Provost and Academic Affairs Report

1. ACT Decision Making Process

Provost Westbrooks provided information on the historical decision making process for the ACT at Chicago State and other public state universities. She informed the Trustees that the Faculty Senate has been involved in the process. Generally, the Faculty Senate makes its
recommendation; however, the decision is that of the Provost and the President. The Board has not been involved in the process. However, Trustee Montes noted that this was not her recollection of the process. In the past, the board has been involved. It has been a collaborative process. Trustee Finney also expressed his concern related to declining enrollment and its impact on the revenue stream of the university. The concern is that if the university continues to admit students based on the ACT 18, the university will have less revenue available for operations. It was noted that the motive for reexamining the ACT is related to the financial viability of the institution, giving the state's $2 billion deficit. The Board Legal Counsel will be asked to render an opinion on the matter. Also, the Faculty Senate and Board need to look at current research and make judgment based on informed research in light of the Wake Forest College and other prestigious universities decision to eliminate the ACT and SAT in its admissions decision.

2. Accreditation Updates

Provost Westbrook informed the trustees that the College of Pharmacy exit meeting for precandidacy is scheduled on Saturday, June 21, 2008. She also noted that Art and Design and Computer Science are unaccredited. The primary concerns related to facility and curriculum. These issues and other academic programs accreditation concerns are being addressed.

3. Financial Support for Student Leaders

Dr. Rosalyn Brown presented the report. It was accepted as presented. Trustee Sutton expressed concerns related to the lack of student involvement in developing procedures. He encouraged more collaboration between students and the Division of Student Affairs.

Alumni Affairs Update

Katey Assem, the acting director of Foundation, informed the trustees that the activities of the Office of Alumni Affairs are not funded by the university but through fundraising activities. However, the staff is partially funded by the University's budget.

Trustee Montes queried about the status of this year's Gala.

Mr. Assem informed the Trustees that an honoree has not been identified. At this point, the Annual Gala will not be held. A discussion ensued as to the role of undergraduate students in alumni development. It was noted that more marketing needs to be done. For Alumni Affairs and Foundation, both were charged with developing a plan with benchmarks of raising revenue for the University, especially giving the revenue for the state is expected to decline. Also, it was reiterated that the ACT needs to be reexamined in light of declining state revenues. The focus must be on outreach to undergraduate students.

Enrollment Update

Dr. Beverly John informed the Trustees that enrollment is flat from 2007 to 2008. The report was accepted.
Academic Library Update
Dean Lawrence McCrank informed the Trustees that the computers in the Academic Library are functioning. However, the problems have not been addressed.

Legislative Update
Mr. Eugene Barnes informed the Trustees that the legislature is attempting to identify permanent funding for the College of Pharmacy. The Governor has not signed the state budget. There is no capital budget. The report was accepted.

Public and Employee Comments – There were none.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.