

Chicago State University Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole Meeting
Minutes
September 19, 2007
Academic Library Auditorium
9:45 – 12:27 p.m.

Members Present

Rev. Richard Tolliver, Ph.D., Chairman
Mr. Jacoby Dickens
Rev. Leon Finney, Ph.D.
Ms. Betsy Hill
Mrs. Peggy A. Montes
Mr. Jim Reynolds
Mr. Jawuan Sutton, Student Trustee

Others Present

President Elnora D. Daniel
Dr. Debra Jefferson, Assistant Vice President
Ms. Diane Conatser, CEO, Information Technology
Attorney Mark Dunn, Board Legal Counsel
Ms. Kathy Anderson, Budget, Resource Planning and Risk Management
Dr. Beverly John, Interim Vice President for Administrative and Enrollment Management
Dr. Kenneth Koroma, Assistant Vice President for Sponsored Programs
Ms. Marquis Miller, Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement
Dr. Alan Robertson, Interim Vice President for Administration, Facilities, and Financial Affairs
Ms. Nancy Hall Walker, Vice President for Labor and Legal Affairs
Dr. Erma Brooks Williams, Senior Executive Director for Board and Governmental Affairs

Guest Presentors

Dr. Philip Beverly, Professor of History and Political Science
Lauren Francis, Student
Mr. Frank Gardner, Community Resident
Chris Gile, Student
Denise Hayes, Entrepreneur
LeShanie Hicks, Student

Roll Call

Chairman Rev. Dr. Richard Tolliver convened the September 19, 2007 Committee of the Whole Meeting. A quorum was verified.

Verification of Meeting Notice

Dr. Erma Brooks Williams verified that the meeting notice had been posted as mandated by the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Information Items

- A. Administrative Affairs, Facilities and Financial Affairs – Dr. Alan Robertson provided highlights of the written preliminary financial reports on revenues, expenditures, cash, grants, contracts, assets, account receivables, collections and the Business Enterprise Program. He noted that the report does not include the lapse period expenditures. *In order to assist the Trustees with following the format of Dr. Robertson's report, a copy of his annotated summary was requested for distribution to the Trustees.*
- B. Budget, Resource Planning and Risk Management – Ms. Catherine Anderson presented the report in Dr. Justmann's absence. She informed the Trustees that the University received a 1.9 percent increase in state appropriations. Additional program initiatives were allocated for the following: HIV/AIDS, \$400,00; Education Doctorate, \$150,000; Financial Outreach Program, \$450,000; convocation center, \$1 million; retention study, \$400,000; Pharmacy Program, \$1.2 million; Chicago Land Regional College Program (CRCP), \$3.5 million; and Policy Program Institute, \$1 million. It was noted that no clear expectations on how the dollars for the Public Policy Program will be expended. *Trustees requested that a clearer description of the mission and vision of the program be provided at the next meeting.* It was noted that the capital bill has not been passed by the Illinois General Assembly. The renovation of Douglas Hall for the implementation of the College of Pharmacy and the Westside Campus would be included in the capital budget. Trustee Finney questioned the need for the Westside Campus given the fiscal challenges facing the state, as well as the documented \$55 million unmet needs of the University.

Action Item

Trustee Reynolds moved to recommend to the full Board the approval of the FY 09 Operating and Capital Budgets. Trustee Dickens seconded the motion. The motion passed as follows:

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

- C. Academic and Student Affairs – Dr. Debrah Jefferson presented the report for Dr. Sandra Westbrook. Dr. Jefferson provided an update regarding the College of Pharmacy accreditation status. She informed the Trustees that the pre-candidacy application is continuing. Eighty-four students will be admitted in August of 2008. Faculty and administrators are being hired. She also informed Trustees that the Occupational Therapy Program Accreditation Council approved the progress report. Other accreditation reports also were provided. Dr. Jefferson informed the Trustees that the West Side Campus is still on hold pending a capital appropriation budget by the Illinois legislature. However, courses could be offered at Malcolm X College.

- D. Enrollment and Admissions Update – Dr. Beverly John informed the Trustees that enrollment is flat. *A complete report will be forwarded after the September 21, 2007 census data are released. At the next meeting, Trustees requested graduation data for fourth, fifth and sixth year students, transfer and part time students. The number of degrees awarded at June Commencement 2007 was requested.*
- E. CSU Foundation Update – Mr. Marquis Miller informed the Trustees that \$3.02 million have been pledged. On October 25, the Second Inaugural President’s Circle will be held. New board members have been added. The Friends of CSU Awards Dinner will be held on September 20. Six hundred attendees are expected. The Sixth Annual Alumni Dinner will be held on November 2, 2007.
- F. Technology Update – Ms. Diane Conatser provided an update on the banner system, and administrative computing. She informed Trustees that a post implementation examination of banner modules is being initiated. *Trustee Sutton requested that a survey be conducted on the usability and user friendliness of students e-mail accounts. Ms. Conatser will provide an update at the December 2007 meeting.*
- G. Sponsored Programs – Dr. Kenneth Koroma informed the Trustees that a total of \$39 million had been awarded, which is an increase of \$10 million over last year.

Public and Employee Comments

1. Lauren Francis, student, informed Trustees that computers on the second floor of the New Library were not working and that staff were unfriendly and rude to students. It was reiterated that there is no need for the Westside Campus. Trustee Montes reiterated that the Board is not in support of a West Side Campus and that the Board has been in opposition to such initiative since the proposal was presented during early Spring 2007. Additional 400 level History classes should be offered. More staff is needed for Nursing, given the demand for nurses. Bathrooms are in need of upgrade in other buildings other than Cook Administration. Also, it was inquired as to how the Pharmacy funding would be spent.

President Daniel commented that the first floor bathrooms have been renovated in all other buildings. After additional deferred maintenance dollars are allocated by the Illinois General Assembly, more renovations will occur. She also indicated that since additional resources have been secured for support of the Pharmacy Program, faculty will be brought on sooner and the program will be implemented faster.

2. Frank Gardner, community resident and retired CPS employee, expressed concerns related to the 15 percent graduation rate and noted that a discussion needs to occur among Trustees on the graduation rate. Trustee Reynolds assured Mr. Gardner that the Board is very concerned and will examine this issue more carefully in the future and further noted that the University needs to be strengthened.

President Daniel commented that many variables must be taken into consideration when examining graduation rates. For example, transfer and part time students are not counted according to the graduation rate calculation procedure used by the US Department of Education. On a positive note, the University is ranked high in graduating students in specific disciplines and overall graduation of African American students, nationally.

3. Dr. Phillip Beverly, Professor of History, Philosophy and Political Science, informed Trustees that the Faculty Senate had voted to name the New Academic Library in honor of the late Poet Laureate Gwendolyn Brooks. However, no action had occurred on this matter. *Trustees requested that this matter be placed on the December 2007 meeting agenda for discussion related to naming rights.*
4. Chris Gile, student, expressed concerns related to the location of the Bookstore that was changed from RUC, to Douglas Hall, and then to BHS 102. Students have been required to wait for over two and one-half hours in long lines and staff was rude to students. Also, students were troubled by the three to four hours wait for the distribution of financial aid checks that wrapped around Cook Administration Building. There were no organization and no warning provided to students of this pending problem.

President Daniel commented that the problems occurred because of computer mal-functioning, which resulted in checks being processed late.

Trustees apologized to students for the lack of planning of the Bookstore change of venue and the disbursement of financial aid checks.

5. Denise Hayes, entrepreneur, encouraged the University to offer a Minority Business Fair to inform the community of opportunities offered by the University and noted that the proposed West Side Campus is unnecessary.
6. LeShanie Hickes, student, informed the Trustees that the computer labs were closed on the third floor of the new Library. She also shared with Trustees that Black Studies is overlooked, noting that no job fair is offered to Black Studies majors.

President Daniel informed the trustees that a chair of African American Studies has been hired. These problems will be addressed by the new leadership.

Dean Lawrence McCrank was requested to update Trustees on the status of the problems in the new library at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The Committee of the Whole adjourned at 12 p.m.