

UUF Executive Committee
Minutes of the Meeting held on October 27, 2005

Present: Julie Amon, Antonio Candau (secretary), James McGuffin-Cawley, Jessica DeQuach, Don Feke, Lynne Ford, Steven Garverick, Amy Hammett, Chris Hudak, Uziel Landau, Edith Lerner, Lynn Lotas, Vissilis Panoskaltisis, Larry Parker (Chair), David Samols, Mano Singham.. Also present was Chris Munoz, Vice Provost for Enrollment Management

*Announcements:

The new UUFXC member David Samols, from School of Medicine's Biochemistry Department, was introduced.

Larry Parker (LP) has put together a summary of the different responsibilities/charges of the committees. It is a crucial time at the university; and, in spite of all the demands on the faculty, involvement is very important. The list will be sent by e-mail to the UUFXC members for suggestions.

LP commented on the forum with the president, available on video. Good experience.

*Minutes of the meeting of September 22 were approved with a correction as to required credit hours being 120.

*Don Feke, Vice provost for Undergraduate Education, reported on four issues that are being discussed by different committees at different levels:

1. Outcome assessment. A report was sent to the Senate by the Outcome Assessment Executive Committee with recommendations; the Senate approved several, among them: each school should develop a plan for outcome assessment and identify resources to fund those assessments.
2. Class shaping. The number of students requested by the different deans comes up to more than is deemed acceptable. The issue is not so much facilities as faculty teaching at times different than the current ones. Some housing issue. At the core of this is what kind of university Case should be.
3. Student information systems. Critical issue for the university to address. Currently there are different systems, not all of them supported.
4. Question about the appropriateness of adopting requirements for undergraduates that are not part of the curriculum requirements, such as community engagement and others. Coming, in part, from the accreditation process.

*Discussion followed. For some, requiring this type of activity –which should be encouraged, even rewarded- will make it unattractive. LP indicated that there is a new set of non-academic courses in management, some already in place, which are very well received. Mano Singham talked about the e-folio, an idea to have students reflect on what they have done/learned in these areas. Julie Amon said there is a subcommittee looking at what is being done at other universities. Perhaps we should know what is being done here before looking somewhere else. It was agreed that the issue needed discussion, suggestions about overloading students, the importance of how it is presented, and that perhaps it should be connected with the leadership initiative.

*Chris Munoz reported on "The Art & Science Group" study and on issues of the current and projected incoming classes. Very successful year in terms of size. Some qualities of the entering class are different, the information is anecdotal but, if true, it aligns with areas we need to improve, compared with other peer institutions. Our students tend to be less comfortable socially, less involved in the community. The new class has this added value, and the university needs to present the image of being comprehensive, with extended experiential learning and strong academic advising and mentoring for career exploration. Students tend to think we are more expensive than we are. The key issue is if we deliver on the promise offered by the new initiatives

(SAGES, new residential experience, etc.). Compared to five years ago, more students are now satisfied with their decision to come at Case.

There are still some concerns.

Questions were asked about the way the percentages were compiled-presented and about the term "comprehensive" university. This was discussed but Munoz explained it as the diversity of people, types of students who come to Case, different majors, etc.

Visits have increased 30%, increase also in early applications.

*Amy Hammett reported on registration issues. SOLAR system is unreliable, different problems. For next semester's registration, classes will be divided alphabetically and different groups will register separately. There are already some places to inform students of the changes and Dean Amon has sent an e-mail about those.

*Discussion of the Agenda for the UUF Annual Faculty meeting on the 17th.

*Next UUFXC meeting will be on the 10th of November.

*ROTC. Don Feke will gather input for departments and try to have it for the next meeting.

Antonio Candau, UUFXC Secretary