

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Bender, Dawes, Hanrahan, Konecky, Lee, Leiter, Rudy, Steffen, Woodman

Absent: Fech, Purcell, Reisbig, Vakilzadian

Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Location: 203 Alexander Building

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Executive Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

1.0 Call (*Woodman*)

Woodman called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

2.0 Announcements

2.1 Report on Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee

Rudy reported that the Ad Hoc Academic Honesty Committee is trying to contact Clemson University about a survey that Clemson conducted about academic honesty, but no one from Clemson has returned any phone calls. He noted that Interim SVCAA Kostelnik and VC Franco were both asked if there would be \$1200 to cover the cost of conducting the survey here. He stated that the Committee is concerned with the timing of the survey since we are approaching the end of the semester and the Committee is supposed to give a report in March. Griffin pointed out that the report to the Senate can easily be postponed until the Committee has had a chance to complete its work.

2.2 Report on Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusiveness

Lee reported that in the past the Sociology department and the Bureau of Sociological Research were asked to develop a survey that would gather information on the campus climate for faculty members and students, but the administration decided not to conduct the survey. He noted that the current diversity audit being conducted only does web scraping by looking for programs that address diversity and inclusiveness, but it does not address the climate of the campus. Konecky pointed out that the audit is to identify what programs are in place and the next step will be to see if the current programs available are effective in helping the students.

Woodman noted that he met with Chancellor Green last week and they discussed the ad hoc committees. He said he requested that the Diversity and Inclusiveness Committee be able to meet with the people conducting the diversity audit. He noted that the Chancellor agreed and said it would be wise to have the consultants meet with the Committee.

2.3 Report on Meeting with Chancellor Green

Woodman stated that he and the Chancellor discussed the budget and he expressed concern that the Senate had no input into the task forces. He reported that the Chancellor pointed out that the task forces are just to gather information and the Senate will be involved in the strategic planning process which will be the next step after the task forces have completed their work.

2.4 Search Committee Update

Woodman reported that the search for an Executive Vice Chancellor has become an internal search. Hanrahan asked who made the decision to have an internal search. Woodman stated that the Chancellor met with the search committee and he told the search committee that there was an internal candidate who had previously withdrawn from the pool of candidates that he would like considered. Woodman stated that the search committee argued that it did not have a chance to appropriately evaluate the person. He stated that the Chancellor agreed to allow additional internal candidates to be considered for the position, but their names would need to be submitted by a deadline date. Associate to the Chancellor Nunez will contact the nominated individuals to see if they are willing to be considered for the position.

3.0 Approval of October 25, 2016 Minutes and November 1, 2016 Minutes

Steffen moved for approval of the October 25, 2016 revised minutes. Motion seconded by Konecky and approved by the Executive Committee.

Steffen moved for approval of the November 1, 2016 minutes. Motion seconded by Rudy and approved by the Executive Committee.

4.0 Unfinished Business

No unfinished business was discussed.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Friday Night Football Games

Woodman expressed concern, particularly about parking, with having Friday night football games. He questioned whether parking lots, especially those by the stadium, will be available for faculty/staff use. Rudy noted that there was a recent announcement that the first Friday night football game will be an away game next year. He pointed out that many of the Big Ten stadiums are off campus, and that we were one of the few that had a stadium on campus. He wondered if the Presidents of the Big Ten universities were consulted about having Friday night games. Woodman suggested that they speak to the Chancellor about the concerns.

5.2 Agenda Items for Interim SVCAA Kostelnik

The Executive Committee identified the following agenda items for Interim SVCAA Kostelnik:

- Status of tenure and promotion process given the budget cuts.
- How to ensure that all non-tenure track faculty members are included in department and college governance documents.
- Will the procedures being developed by the College of Arts & Sciences on Professors of Practice become standard across the campus?

5.3 Chancellor Green - Budget Cuts

Chancellor Green reported that President Bounds has been in discussion with the Governor and Legislature and there is the expectation that we will be facing a budget cut this year, but the bigger challenge ahead is the biennium budget which will be set in the next legislative session. He stated that the highest priority will be to protect the academic enterprise of the university. He noted that the budget cuts will be an inclusive process. Senior leadership teams are already engaged in discussions and feedback will be solicited from the university community.

Chancellor Green reported that the campus will continue to be a good partner to the state by being open and collaborative in regards to challenges and opportunities. We will also continue to be good stewards of all of our funding as we carry out our mission of teaching, research, and outreach. He stated that the overall budget situation will be carefully evaluated and more information will be available in the coming weeks and months.

Chancellor Green noted that currently there is a hiring freeze on all faculty and staff positions that are funded in whole or in part by the state-aided budget. He pointed out that there is a process where open positions can be evaluated for “mission critical” status, and if approved, these positions can be filled. He noted that positions that are in the interviewing stage must also be evaluated, and if they are deemed to be “mission critical” he will recommend to President Bounds that the positions be filled. He pointed out that any new hires made before November 5 are not part of the hiring freeze.

Chancellor Green explained that the hiring freeze is a hold on funding of unfilled positions, it is not a budget cut. He pointed out that how the university will manage the anticipated budget reduction will be clarified in the coming months.

Chancellor Green said that state-funded travel, in general, should be reduced to help curb expenses, but it is up to the discretion of the deans and directors. He stated that state-funded purchasing will also be at the discretion of the deans/directors who are in the best

position to make mission-critical decisions. He reported that any spending needs to be very focused on carrying out work that directly supports our mission and it will be scrutinized.

Lee asked if there are any hopeful signs of the state revenue returning. Chancellor Green stated that it is not likely in the immediate future. He noted that when this kind of situation happened in 2008-9-10 there was federal stimulus money to help offset the budget cuts, but that will not be available this time.

Rudy asked how much savings can be found through travel funds. Chancellor Green stated not much. He pointed out that most of the state-aided budget is for salaries and benefits. He stated that these are all precautionary measures and we won't know exact figures until April or May.

Chancellor Green thanked the Executive Committee for meeting with him on such short notice, but he wanted to let the Committee know of the situation and he wants to be as transparent as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander Building. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Allison Reisbig, Secretary.