

FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

Wednesday, May 9, 2012—3:00 p.m.
Chair Aaron Elmer, Presiding

Call to Order. The Faculty Advisory Council met at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at the State Regents' office. Members present were Deborah Lockwood, Stephen Eddy (phone), Georgia Kosmopoulou, J.C. Casey, Luis Montes, Rene Hurst, Bud Sandefur (phone), Aaron Elmer and Timothy Norton. Also present was Debra Stuart of the State Regents' staff. Aaron Elmer presided.

Minutes from last meeting. The minutes of the April 2012 FAC meeting were approved as revised.

Joint resolution with the Student Advisory Board (SAB). Upon consideration of proposed resolution on "Improved Teaching Methods for Faculty," the members present did not support as worded, but offered to share the student concerns at their respective institutions.

Faculty recruitment and retention. Discussion of factors negatively impacting retention and recruitment included low salary, increased teaching load, use of adjuncts, increased service and advising, current funding formula, low tuition rates, decreased retirement benefits, cost of health insurance, increasing age of retirement, age differences between faculty and students, attracting from out-of-state, travel cuts and less faculty development.

Discussion of 2012 work plan topics.

1. Preparation of high school students for college: FAC was updated on the new K-12 standards based on the Common Core State Standards adopted by most states, the Complete College America (CCA) projects, and innovation on campuses such as improvement in freshman orientation;
2. Preparation of transfer students from technology centers, online programs and from community colleges to universities: The FAC received a description of online activity in Oklahoma and the review processes;
3. Improvement of developmental education and gateway courses: FAC was updated on the status of the Complete College America (CCA) projects including the April State System Summit on Remedial Reform -and MSC described developing remedial science course;
4. Impact of faculty salaries on recruitment and retention; FAC reviewed faculty trends and salaries and discussed factors observed on campus;
5. Impact of health insurance and retirement benefits on recruitment and retention: proposed changes at institutions were discussed and suggested that members talk to business officer; and
6. Promoting of higher education in the legislature: "bring a legislator to work" during the fall semester was suggested and is being considered at some institutions.

Next meeting. The next meeting is Wednesday, September 5, at 3:00 p.m. Participation by telephone or video is available upon request.

Other. Luis Montes reported on the annual Tuition Hearing at which the students commented that they recognize the need for an increase.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.