

Executive Council Minutes July 16, 2015

Present: Jay Jones, Debbie Gasaway, Jay Hughes, Jimmie Yeiser, Linda Yeiser

Mr. Jones discussed professional development week. Dr. Yeiser stated that he is working on the schedule and the theme for this year will be retention and student success.

Mr. Jones asked Dr. Yeiser to report on the HLC Pathway for reaffirmation of accreditation. Dr. Yeiser stated that the recommendation from the committee is to select the Open Pathway. He noted this selection has the least HLC oversight, is the least costly, has definite reporting requirement periods, and is the most appropriate for most universities. The Council approved this recommendation and Mr. Jones stated that he would send the pathways declaration form to HLC indicating the University's preference.

Mr. Jones presented a revised computer usage policy prepared by Ms. Anissa Ross. The Council reviewed the changes and adopted the revisions.

Mr. Jones led a discussion with the group regarding the University's hosting of events and providing of services for outside organizations. The Council discussed the desire of the University to continue to partner with the community and to manage these opportunities against the challenges related to available resources.

Dr. Yeiser provided a new policy regarding timber harvesting. The Executive Council approved this policy and it will be added on the website as an operating procedure.

Mr. Hughes provided a proposal regarding the purchase of folding chairs for events such as commencement. He will check on obtaining a bid, as well as acceptable storage options, if purchased.

Mr. Hughes discussed proposed rate increases for the Trotter House. He stated that the proposed pricing was more reflective of market rates. He will provide more information including a required state rate, and send out a revised pricing recommendation for approval.

Ms. Gasaway stated that Act 557 of 2015 changes reporting requirements for state purchases that will go into effect August 1, 2015.

Ms. Gasaway discussed GASB 68, which is the pronouncement of an authoritative governmental oversight board, related to accounting and financial reporting for pensions. She noted that all state agencies, including UAM, will be required to record liabilities related to the unfunded portion of APERS and ATRS participants' future benefits. She stated that these amounts could be significant for the University and would adversely affect financial ratios including the Composite Financial Index (CFI).

Ms. Yeiser discussed a matter involving private scholarships and she will check on related policies that may already exist at other campuses and provide that information at the next Executive Council meeting.

Ms. Yeiser suggested using the Chancellor's Home for the location of the Alumni Party to be held Friday, October 9, 2015. The Council approved this request.

Mr. Hughes provided information on housing applications for the fall semester, noting an increase from the past two years.