

Executive Council Minutes

May 18, 2020

Present: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Moses Goldman, Crystal Halley, Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Christy Pace, John Kidwell, Padraic McMeel, Tyrone Gadson, Frank Porto, Haley Woods, Mary Whiting

1. Financial Aid Update – Mr. Porto, Mr. Gadson, Ms. Woods

The new Director of Financial Aid, Tyrone Gadson, and Assistant Director, Haley Woods, were introduced. The summer awarding of financial aid is about half way completed. The remainder of aid should be completed by the end of this week. For the fall semester, around 2,000 FAFSA's have been received, with about 500 selected for verification. The target date for aid for the fall semester to be packaged is the end of June.

2. CARES Act Fund Distribution– Mr. Porto, Mr. Becker

The spring semester CARES Act distribution has just been awarded to students. Students who take summer classes will also be given additional CARES Act money after the summer 2 census date. The distribution of funds from the institutional side of the CARES Act was discussed, as well as the restrictions the University has on what the money can be spent on.

3. PPE Assessment – Mr. Kidwell

The purchase of PPE equipment was discussed, including face masks, face shields, gloves, plexiglass at podiums and desks. The current challenge is the purchase of sanitizing wipes. Items will need to be ordered by mid-June in order to be received by the fall semester.

4. Admissions and Recruitment Update – Dr. Goldman, Ms. Whiting

There is an increase in enrollment and the number of admissions applications compared to last year. All offices were commended for their help in contacting students, including academic affairs, financial aid, admissions staff and recruiters, etc. Walking tours are being given, with masks being worn and social distancing being practiced. Zoom meetings are also being held with parent and students.

5. Options for Promoting Fall Enrollment – Dr. Doss

Ideas for helping to promote enrollment for the fall should be sent to Mary, as well as any information on prospective students/parents that need to be contacted.

6. NCAA and GAC Updates – Mr. McMeel

The offices of Financial Aid, Admissions and Academic Affairs were commended on their help with the Athletics department. NCAA Division II has approved on-campus recruits, as long as it is approved by the campus. The Presidents Council will meet tomorrow to discuss games. The GAC will be meeting later in the week to discuss

options from a conference standpoint. Meetings are being held with coaches and student athletes regarding processes and procedures. Options for games are also being looked at both with fans and without fans.

7. Update on Housing Contract – Dr. Goldmon

The UA System legal counsel is currently looking at UAM's housing contract to see if revisions are needed. Conversations are also being held with other UA 4 year institutions regarding their policies.

8. NAPT Program – Mr. Ware

Certification of the NAPT program through 2022 was received with the help of Representative Jeff Wardlaw and the Arkansas Office of Long-term Care.

9. Update on FY 21 Status – Mr. Becker

The request for approval of tuition and fees is on the agenda for Thursday's Board of Trustees meeting. The following change in office staff was announced: Debbie Gasaway will be moving to the Chancellor's office and her position will focus more on budget forecasting and planning. Frank Porto will move into the position of Controller and will take on financial statements, etc.

10. Alumni and Development Updates – Mr. Weaver

Graduates who participated in the regalia pick-up were given an alumni gift. There has been an influx of brick purchases for weevil walk. The UAM Foundation Board met recently and Randy Risher offered to match up to \$500 for each Board member who donated to the UAM/Student Success fund.

11. Academic Affairs Update – Ms. Halley

Student grade change forms were discussed, noting there have been 353 submitted. During the regalia pick-up, 77 packets were handed out. The current primary focus is registration and fall planning.