

Executive Council Minutes

November 2, 2020

Present: Dr. Peggy Doss, Alex Becker, Dr. Moses Goldmon, Crystal Halley, Linda Rushing, Bob Ware, Jeff Weaver, Debbie Gasaway, Christy Pace

Old Business:

- Mr. Becker checked on the use of the Gallery Room (patio café). It was to be used for overflow during lunch; however, it is not being utilized. Ms. Halley will look at it as an option for classroom space. Ms. Halley viewed the racquetball court as a possible use of space, but due to an echo in the room and the small doors, it might not be practical.
- Mr. Weaver announced new endowments and discussed the legislative meetings that took place last week. He will find out the date for the Athletic Fundraiser that will be an online auction this year.
- Mr. Ware asked about the insurance for the shooting range. Mr. Becker will check on it, as well as, the possibility of having federal college work study funds at the Colleges of Technology. A food distribution was held at the McGehee campus, and over 1200 families received food.
- Ms. Rushing discussed the promoting of the hospitality program. Mr. Weaver will have Media Services highlight programs on social media.
- Dr. Goldmon asked Ms. Whiting to reach out to a couple of prospective students who have not been contacted by UAM, but have received materials from other universities.
- Ms. Halley discussed assistance for the Academic Advising staff. Some faculty have already volunteered to help advise students in general studies, and Ms. Johnson has requested federal college work study funds.

New Business:

1. Christmas Messaging to Students

Vice Chancellors were requested to talk to their staff about messages from their areas that need to be sent to students over the next couple of months.

2. Spring Break

Some universities have already made decisions regarding spring break. A meeting will be called with Executive Council, Deans, Assembly Leadership, and members of SGA and SAB to discuss spring break options for UAM.

3. UAM Student Help Line

At one time, a student help line was discussed. Since students can normally reach the counselor and be directed to other areas, a help line may not be needed. It would be beneficial; however, for all offices to know more about how to provide customer service. Vice Chancellors were asked to send the most frequently asked questions, along with the

answers, to Christy by Friday, as well as a list of employees who would benefit from attending a Zoom meeting on Monday.

4. UAMS/UAM MOU Agreement

A copy of the agreement with UAMS was provided. UAMS will be the official provider for UAM Athletics; however, this does not force any athlete to use UAMS. A billboard will be put up soon announcing the partnership.

5. Vacant Positions/Voluntary Retirement

Positions that are currently vacant were discussed. Vice Chancellors were asked to look at ways to restructure or be more effective in their respective areas. Faculty who have applied for voluntary retirement was also discussed. It was noted that voluntary retirement is not an entitlement or obligation; and the university can refuse if it is a detriment or there is not substantial savings. Mr. Becker and Ms. Gasaway will provide a recommendation of the amounts the University can fund for voluntary retirement incentives.

6. CT Campuses Coffee Breaks/Dates

A coffee break will be provided at McGehee and Crossett, like the one that will be held on the main campus on November 11.

7. UAM Assembly Leadership/Executive Council Meeting

A meeting will be scheduled soon with the Assembly Leadership and Executive Council.

8. Five Oaks Project

An agreement has just been finalized with Five Oaks Ag Research and Education Center, Inc., which will allow access to waterfowl habitat in Humphrey, AR and research to be conducted on red oaks.

9. FY22 Budget Hearings/Planning

Vice Chancellors were asked to begin having conversations with staff regarding budget needs for FY22.