**Academic Affairs Committee**

Minutes

Date: February 8, 2017   
Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Faculty Commons

1. CALL TO ORDER:
2. **ROLL:** Beau Grzanich, Ann Haugo, Kathleen Lonbom, *Michael Gizzi*, James Pancrazio (Chair), Wade Nichols, Kyle Walsh, Jim Jawahar, Zeng Lin, *Lauren Porter, Jesús Magaña*, Joe Trefzger (UCC liaison).

**Underlined indicates absent**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES: #6** January 25, 2017
2. CONSENT CALENDAR
   1. ReggieNet Survey Results
3. STANDARD ORDER OF BUISNESS
4. GOOD OF THE ORDER
5. ANNOUCEMENTS:
6. PROGRAM:
   1. Guest: Jana Albrecht, Interim Assoc VP Enrol Mgmt will be present to discuss the Senate Diversity Report. By way of introductions, the Interim VP introduced herself and explained that she comes from working in financial aid, and has worked with helping low-income students find support. 2016 recruiting was a very good year. The numbers were great: increases in the number of transfer students, and first-time freshman. There was a slight dip in the retention and graduation rate. Typically, the problems commented have been financial, could not get into a major, or personal issues. Student Services has been working to provide services to build strong community. Retention is helped if students meet a faculty mentor. “Retention has been very good and we wanted to be better.” Question about are we trying to recruit from out of state. “Yes, we have had some recruitment in attempts in Indianapolis, Dallas, and St. Louis. This is been slow going because this is new for us.”

When asked about the future demographic projections for Illinois college-bound students, she indicated that there will be fewer students graduating from high schools and that a higher percentage of these students will come from underrepresented populations. There is also a loss of Illinois students to out of state recruiting. The net loss in Illinois of students for 16,000 to other schools. Surrounding states that have reciprocal relations with scholarships compete for underrepresented students. The IBHE report did not indicate why students left Illinois. The report studied the outmigration, and found that it was the highest in the country.

Discussion about how universities initiatives may come into conflict with each other: the EAB initiative toward efficiency and the needs of both INTO and some underrepresented students that may need additional academic support to be successful in their studies. It is likely that we will have student incoming domestic freshmen, many of which are first-generation and from underrepresented populations that will need support services to help them to be successful. Likewise, these international students will need additional support services in writing.

In regard to international students, there was some discussion about the INTO team. The first class of students are expected on campus in fall 2018. There was some discussion about relationships with China. Zeng Lin offered his help if there is a need for connections in China.

Discussion about ReggieNet Survey

The review came after the major problems the previous year. Many of the issues related to system stability were fixed when the system was moved to an off-campus server. The survey showed that 77% of those surveyed indicated that the services had improved over the academic year. 78% indicated satisfaction with the features in general. 80% indicated that they were satisfied with the current performance, and almost 90% indicated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the support from CTLT. 84% indicated they were satisfied with the support from TSC. Student senators commented that they had not heard one single complaint about Reggienet. Some mentioned that there was some variance from professor to professor in how the system was used. There were suggestions that an app for the smart phones would increase usage.

In regard to general comments, committee members suggested that that CTLT should be commended for his work thus far, and should perhaps consider new ways to ensure that more faculty and students take the survey this coming spring. The committee also suggested continuing work on the gradebook. One commented, “The ship is going in the right direction.”

1. ADJOURN

Minutes approved via email (circulated and commented).