

CSAC Minutes

02/16/04 – Laurel Forum – 2:03 p.m.

In Attendance: Karen Anderson, Brenda Barger, Ann Bass, Steve Elliott, Lydia Gossett, Laurie Hollingsworth, Mike Honeycutt, Andrea Jackson, Tammy Justice, Carole Pickard, Leanna Preston, Melanie Rhodarmer, Connie Schaller, Barbara Wallace, Susan Weatherford, Deirdre Wiggins, Mike Wilson, Chrissy Wise

Absent: None

Visitors: Steve Honeycutt, Marilyn Lonon, Jim Mullen

- ? Meeting called to order at 2:02 p.m.
- ? Approval of Minutes for December 15th meeting
- ? Lydia welcomed Chancellor Mullen to our meeting to discuss the campus-based tuition increase and other budgetary issues. Dr. Mullen acknowledged his awareness of everyone's interest in the proposed tuition increase (\$300 in-state, \$600 out-of-state) and the use of the monies if the increase is approved by the legislature. He stated that UNCA's increase is pretty consistent with the other campuses in the UNC system. He discussed the different factors that surround use of the proposed increase; that some Board of Governors' members believe that salary is the responsibility of the state and that monies realized from tuition increase should not be directed toward salaries. A general discussion ensued which covered points on whether the tuition increase would be across-the-board or decided campus by campus; student reaction production "Faces not Numbers", and the role of CSAC in challenging the question. Dr. Mullen suggested that we should develop a reasoned and balanced approach with legislators rather than an 'in your face' dialogue.
- ? Lydia asked Dr. Mullen for suggestions on an approach to re-examine the formula for in-range salary recommendations. Dr Mullen suggested a focus on the 'most in need'.
- ? There was a general discussion regarding the possibility for a legislative salary increase for state employees and how dependent an increase is on the improvement of the state's economy. Dr. Mullen explained that UNCA's location near the salary bottom in comparison to other UNC institutions is poised to change. Last year UNCA received equity money; not for salaries but for the institution; we have a salary and operating money problem and that we got behind and never caught up; also that we owe Vice Chancellor Wayne McDevitt a debt of gratitude for our raised profile with the legislators.
- ? Dr. Mullen reacted favorably to Marilyn Lonon's suggestion that staff meet with legislators, stating it takes a lot of work because legislators are inundated with requests.

- ? Dr. Mullen spoke about how any faculty increase would be distributed and Steve Honeycutt observed that Dr. Mark Padilla has convened a task force to examine faculty salaries.
- ? Deirdre Wiggins invited everyone to join the State Employee's Association of North Carolina (SEANC). She stated that she is the only participating member on UNCA's campus and that more participation from our employees would achieve better results; and that it would really help if we spoke in a unified voice.
- ? Dr. Mullen thanked the group for the invitation to attend and stated that "you're the one's keeping this place going." He departed at 2:45pm
- ? The meeting closed with:
 - o A review of the tuition increase's chance of approval and different factors associated with that question
 - o A summary of the recent Board of Trustees meeting
 - o An overview of the current CSAC finances (\$209 picnic, \$354 holiday lunch, \$81 misc events, \$395 uncommitted)
 - o Plans for the upcoming Wellness Fair
 - o Status of Staff Development events
 - o Yard Sale raised \$1300 which remains unspent
 - o Scholarship committee needs a new head
 - o Misc Event scheduled 2/24, "Wouldn't You Rather Be in Hawaii" party
 - o Distinguished Staff plaque remains un-hung
- ? The next meeting will be on March 15th.

No further business was introduced. The meeting adjourned at 3:16 p.m.