

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Approval of the minutes for the October 3, 2013 meeting.
3. Updates:
 - a. Faculty Senate Timeline (attached)
 - b. Faculty Handbook – Doug
4. Feedback to President Lewis and Board of Trustees re Provost position:
 - a. Evaluation of Acting Provost – How? Input from whom?
 - b. Conduct a full search?
5. Visit by President Lewis and Larry Farmer – between 11:20 and 11:30 am
6. Adjourn
7. Next meeting: November 7, 2013

MINUTE APPROVAL – APPROVED

UPDATES

Faculty Senate Timeline

Swink and Trustee Awards deadline is March 11, so aim is to vote in the February meeting

Vote: Senate approved new timeline for the 2013-2014 academic year

Faculty Handbook

Committee will be meeting to go over the full list of changes

There will be a discussion of the “constitution” that is included in the handbook as it relates to the timeline

FEEDBACK TO PRESIDENT LEWIS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGARDING PROVOST POSITION

President Lewis wants feedback from campus leadership on input about the Acting Provost

Opinions: We should do a search, which would reinforce the Acting Provost if he takes the position

There have been failures in the past about how searches function

It would be a time consuming and financially expensive endeavor

It would reduce continuity to have another transition

Part of question is how much a search firm would cost

Generally positive views of how Dr. Bitzer is performing as a Provost

Overall, there seems to be support for a search of the position

VISIT BY PRESIDENT LEWIS AND LARRY FARMER

Question: Where do we stand in terms of faculty benefits? (retirement and raises)

Answer: Will be able to report more after trustee meeting. Cash flow position of the college is good.

Increased enrollment has helped in addition to careful spending. We are still technically in a budget deficit when you factor in depreciation. This is important to SACS for having a balanced budget. We seem to be moving in the right direction so it is very unlikely they would withhold

accreditation. One goal is to ensure that the trustees receive the right signals. They have been generous, but need some encouragement to be certain of the financial stability. In a nutshell: Very optimistic.

Question: Issue of emergency room co-pay of \$500. Will this be revisited?

Answer: Lewis: Currently the school pays \$2,000 every time someone uses the emergency room for any reason. The intention is to nudge people's behavior away from using the emergency room.

Farmer: It is becoming much more normal to have a \$500 co-pay. Costs \$77,000 to return to \$150 co-pay. There are a lot of benefits that could be reduced to compensate for this. Includes changing office visit co-pay, deductible, and out of pocket limit. In the last two years there were 53 and 55 visits to the ER respectively.

Question: Are there a few people using the ER or is it a wide group?

Answer: Breakdown is 28 people using it once, 6 people using twice, 3 people using 3 times, one person used 4 times, one person used 10 times. Inappropriate visits increased from 14 times to 18 times in those two years.

Question: Are there supplemental insurances available to cover these expenses?

Answer: We are not eligible for a health savings account, but we do have the flex plan.

Question: What about a community meeting to let people know what constitutes an emergency?

Answer: This could be a part of the lunch and learn sessions.

Question: Is it feasible to have an alternative fund for paying for ER visits?

Answer: Might have issues with PHI(Private Health Information).

ADJOURNMENT