



Professional Administrative Staff Council (PASC)

Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2008

UC Conference Room

Council Members Present: Joe Tort, Aimee Rogers, Beckie Croissant, Sarah Chase, Jimmy Henderson, Jay Dinges, Chris Vegter, Becky Broghammer, Lori Brachtenbach, Tricia Tort, Solomon Little Owl, Andy Malinski (SPEEC representative)

Council Members Absent: Ryan Rose, Li Wang, Stephanie Moir

1) Call to Order

Dinges called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m.

2) Approval of Minutes

- September 10 meeting minutes were approved as amended.

3) Guest Speaker: Dr. Randal Haack (VP for Finance & Administration)

- Impact of current economy on UNC
 - The governor's hiring freeze for state agencies does not directly impact UNC, but we need to pay attention to it, and we should be attentive to what other institutions of higher education in Colorado are doing.
 - The slated renovation of Butler-Hancock will be affected. \$3 million for the renovations come from state appropriations, which will be delayed. However, we are confident that we'll have the \$11.5 million for the other renovations.
 - Over the next few years, future capital projects will probably be meager.
- Student Fees
 - President Norton and VP Haack recently spoke with CCHE.
 - UNC requested a 6% increase in state support (\$110+ million)
 - If UNC receives its share, we could be even with our NCHEMS peer institutions in 10 years.
 - However, currently the state is only appropriating about \$50 million. Without state funding, we become more dependent upon student tuition and fees.
 - SRC is interested in having more student fee money to allocate during the SFAP process.
 - We will benefit from further discussion regarding what to charge and how to charge student fees.

- Institutional Priorities
 - Recruitment and retention of students
 - Recruitment and retention of faculty and staff
 - Education Innovation Institute
- Question from PASC: Has there been any discussion about increasing the number of credit hours allowed per year under the employee tuition benefit in order to recruit and retain faculty and staff?
 - There is no active discussion currently. President Norton will be forming a task force to examine how the workplace environment can be improved.
 - The cost of employee benefits increased by 9.9% this year, but that increase will be borne solely by the university and will not be passed on to its employees this year.
 - Effective January 2009, domestic partner benefits will be covered by CHEIBA for all employees (faculty, classified, and exempt).
- Question from PASC: Has there been any discussion about closing the campus over the holiday break to save on energy/electrical costs?
 - There is no active discussion currently. However, the idea will be shared with the institutional planning group.
- Employee Recognition
 - Dr. Haack would like to work more closely with PASC and SPEEC regarding employee recognition. Feedback is sought about how the university can meaningfully recognize employees for their years of service, and also for all the good work they do.
 - PASC members suggested:
 - Reinstating the 5, 10, 15 year pins that used to be awarded.
 - Intentionally including faculty and staff in campus events and planning.
 - Recognizing good work through the SPEEC and PASC newsletters.
 - In addition to making appearances at special events, it would be nice if upper administration made a greater effort to talk and interact with faculty and staff at such events.
- Dr. Haack would appreciate the opportunity to attend PASC meetings on a more frequent basis to share information and answer questions. PASC members agreed that it would be nice to invite Dr. Haack to be a guest speaker at PASC meetings at least once per semester or on a quarterly basis.

4) **New Business**

- Colorado Combined Campaign (Brachtenbach) CCC Chili Cook Off
 - Tuesday, Nov. 18 from 11:30 – 1:00 in UC Ballrooms

- PASC Newsletter (Croissant)
 - All PASC members were asked to forward content to Croissant for inclusion in the Fall newsletter by Friday, October 17.

5) Informational Items

- PASC/SPEEC Fall Mixer
 - Friday, October 31 from 7:30-9:00 am in UC Ballrooms
 - Prizes will be awarded for best group and individual costumes
- Brachtenbach will talk with Jane Graff and Elaine Quam to issue personal invitations to President Norton and Provost Harraf for the PASC/SPEEC banquet.

6) Next PASC meeting

- Wednesday, November 5 in UC Conference Room.

7) Adjournment

- Dinges adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Chase, PASC Secretary