

Minutes: UAC Executive Board Meeting

February 5, 2014

Attending: Donna Witt (President), Avery Pavliska (President Elect), Amanda Mather (Immediate Past President), Bonnie Bustos-Rios (VP, Programs), Cristina Vela (Treasurer), Jaclyn Upshaw-Brown (Secretary), Jeana Goodson (Parliamentarian), Amber Skinner (Historian), Trina Gregory (AGLS), Michelle Trimble (CLAR), Casey Schumacher (CLED), Marco Valadez (Liberal Arts), Clint Crampton (Science), Allison Maderia (Transition Academic Programs), Dave Kincaid (BIMS), Mary Broussard (Assoc. Provost, Undergraduate Studies), Morgan Jones (Academic Affairs), Lyle Slack (Academic Affairs), Stephanie Bullick (Student Affairs), Bethany Smith (Student Affairs), Col. Paul Timoney (Corps of Cadets), Meredith Simpson (Corps of Cadets), Mindy Phillips (Athletics), Bridgette Ingram (Scholarships & Financial Aid), Irene Scott (Global Programs Support), Justin Schilke (Office of the Registrar), Jayson Naiser (Blinn), Whitney Korthauer, DeeAnn Eller-Wiggins.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes approval: Minutes from the December 4 meeting were approved.

Officer and committee reports:

President – D. Witt

- There was no AOC Dean's meeting, so no updates.

President-Elect – A. Pavliska

- The MSC Ballroom has been reserved for the annual Awards Breakfast, which is scheduled for May 1 from 8-10:30 a.m.
- The Awards Breakfast committee is still open to new members. Those interested can contact Avery.

VP Programs – B. Bustos-Rios

- Symposium will be on March 20, 2014, in the MSC. Registration is now open; deadline to register is Friday, Feb. 21. Proposal deadline is Friday, Feb. 7
- UAC is partnering this year with the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Studies' office to fund the keynote speaker, Jennifer Joslin of the NACADA executive office. Her talk will deal with technology in advising and higher education.
- UAC is also partnering with the TAMUS Academic Advising Task Force, which had established a goal of providing a one-day professional development event for all system advisors and decided to encourage them to come to our Symposium. NACADA Vice President JP Regalado (of TAMUCC) has worked with Dr. Hallmark, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, to arrange a networking reception from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on Wed., March 19, at Chancellor Sharp's home.
- Division representatives are asked to remind their colleagues to register and submit proposals.
- Blocks of hotel rooms are available for out-of-town attendees; information is on the UAC website.

Secretary – J. Upshaw-Brown

- Discussion of ordering UAC polo shirts: The UAC logo would not work for embroidered polos because the lettering would be too small. A. Mather proposed to use TAMU logo, following the Brand Guide, with "University Advisors and Counselors" underneath. A vote was taken, and this approach was approved.
- Board members were asked to complete a survey that was sent out to assess preferred shirt style/price point.

Treasurer – C. Vela

- Awards Breakfast reservations have been submitted.
- All financial transactions from the Holiday Social have been completed.

Immediate Past President – A. Mather

- The Undergraduate Degree Planner is now open for advisor approvals.
- Dr. Watson will update the AOC to send communications to students who need to submit Degree Plans.
- If students get their plans to 100% completion, they can self-approve, but advisors will need to approve others so their registration holds can be lifted. (This will occur automatically.)

- The administration is looking at guidelines for colleges to have percentages of approvals done by certain dates; that information will go out soon.

Old business: No old business.

New business:

New Family Welcome Initiatives – Libby Daggers

- New Student and Family Programs is planning its annual welcome event for parents of first-year students.
- Feedback has been that families would rather have it focus more on academics than football.
- This year, NSFP will plan the event for an away football weekend (looking at Oct. 18 -- Alabama game) for more flexible scheduling; families can still watch the game, but there will be time for other things, too.
- NSFP seeks feedback on ways in which Colleges/Divisions might be involved (meeting with advisors, resource tables, mock classes, etc.). Anyone with ideas should contact NSFP at AggieFamilies@tamu.edu or 845-5846.

Announcements:

Study Abroad – I. Scott

- Funding Informational Workshops are coming up (Feb. 24, 3:30-4:30; April 3, 4-5; both in Pavilion 236).
- The Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship application deadline is Feb. 28. This award is to help underrepresented students fund their study abroad programs. Campus Representatives Larry Komrower and Bianca Cusimano can assist students with the application process.

Registrar's Office – J. Schilke

- J. Schilke is leaving after Feb. 25; Degree Audit is making plans for handling this transition.
- The system will no longer allow 3 extra days for processing Q-drops after the deadline; they can be processed only until midnight on the day of the deadline.
- Intersession grading will happen Feb. 24-March 3.
- The degree application deadline is Feb. 14; commencement schedules will be made by March.
- Some commencement ceremonies may be ticketed due to large numbers of grads.
- Changes may be necessary for May 2015 commencement because we are running out of time & space under the current system; it may become each college's responsibility to plan its own graduation.

Scholarships & Financial Aid – B. Ingram

- Freshman scholarship awards for 2014-2015 have been mailed; SFA has changed its process to get all awards on one letter rather than separate letters for each scholarship. (This excludes Corps scholarships.)
- Still reviewing Terry scholarship applications, which will also involve an interview process.
- Exemptions & waivers -- selective service registration and SAP are now checked. (This mostly applies competitive scholarship waivers to exempt recipients from out of state tuition.)
- 12th class day processing/awards adjustments are underway.
- The 2014-2015 FAFSA is now available.
- Operation Veteran Success is scheduled for Feb. 7-8; advisors/counselors are asked to encourage student veterans to attend.
- The Pat Tillman Foundation Scholarship application is available Feb. 7 - March 6; any veterans who might be interested should contact Bridgette Ingram.

Academic Success Center – M. Jones

- ASC and Peer Academic Services have merged under the ASC name. The website is still successcenter.tamu.edu; 458-4500 will be the phone number (except for issues related to TSI; that office will keep its current phone number).
- Students on a required ASC plan who need to do the FreshStart orientation will get an email that they need to do so; there will be a rolling-start session offered Feb. 19 in the YMCA Building. Students will need about an hour to complete the program.
- The ASC currently has about a 3-week lead time for appointments, so students may be having to wait for appointments.

Proposed Veteran Resource & Support Center workshop and/or webinar – B. Bustos-Rios

- D. Witt had proposed a certain week to the VRSC but did not hear back.
- B. Ingram suggested encouraging VRSC to submit a proposal for Symposium.
- Russ Graves of Transition Academic Programs had contacted B. Bustos-Rios about a Feb. 26 webinar called Soldiers to Students, asking whether UAC might be able to purchase it for interested advisors.
- M. Broussard said her office could purchase the webinar.
- B. Ingram will check with Col. Smith to see whether the other event is still planned, but it was decided the webinar would still be a good opportunity for those who won't be able to attend the other session or would like an outside perspective.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Jaclyn Upshaw-Brown, Secretary.