Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee

April 20, 2010

Bib Graves Conference Room

The Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee (SPBS) meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Chair Brenda Webb. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ben Baker, Dr. Kerry Gatlin, Ms. Martha Hickman, Mr. Mark Linder, Dr. Anna Lott, Dr. Alan Medders, Mr. David Shields, Dr. Steve Smith, Dr. John Thornell, and Dr. Kristy Van Rensselaer. Absentees were: Ms. Tera Kirkman, Ms. Lynn Underwood, and Mr. Daniel Wagner. Other attendees were: Ms. Donna Tipps

Dr. Van Rensselaer made a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Medders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A wording change was made to the April 5 minutes under New Business A.3. Dr. Lott made the motion to approve the April 5 minutes with the noted change. Dr. Medders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

1. Dr. Smith will bring current requests for budget considerations to the next meeting due to a time constraint.
2. Review of 20-Year Master Plan

Chair Webb distributed a handout which contained excerpts from the UNA Campus Master Plan 2010 for a SPBS Committee reference. Chair Webb asked the committee to review the handout for strengths and weaknesses and forward any comments or questions to her. Chair Webb will compile a report and bring back to the committee for review before forwarding the report to President Cale.

1. Florence Country Club and Land Acquisition

Due to a time constraint, Item C was tabled.

1. Summer School Faculty Salaries

Chair Webb distributed a copy of the second proposal from Arts & Sciences concerning summer school faculty salaries (Attachment A). She read the proposal for the committee’s consideration. Dr. Medders made a motion to officially discuss this consideration. Dr. Gatlin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. There was expressed reluctance to move the proposal forward without knowing ramifications and without other Shared Governance committees reviewing the proposal. After discussion, Chair Webb noted that with the consensus of the committee no changes in summer salaries would be recommended at this time, but that discussion of summer school faculty salaries should become conversation for the campus community.

1. Additional Scholarship Requests – Dr. John Thornell and Mr. Ben Baker

Mr. Baker distributed a handout outlining scholarship cost projections and scholarship proposals for the committee to review. He noted that figures for scholarship requests were based on expected retention and an anticipated increased tuition rate ($181/hr). Mr. Baker noted that according to a study by Kim Mauldin and the Admission Office that UNA is in the lower tier of scholarship offers. He also noted that on June 15 recruiting begins for the 2011-2012 scholarship year. Mr. Baker reviewed the handout with the committee. Part I – Academic Scholarship Cost projected an increase of $380,000 for 2010-2011 for a total of $1,784,632. After discussion, Mr. Baker made a motion to support the projected number increase for those currently receiving scholarships for 2010-2011. Dr. Medders seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Baker reviewed Part II – 2011-2012 Academic Scholarship Proposal with the committee. The proposal called for an increase in scholarship amounts based on ACT scores. For an ACT score of 25 the scholarship amount would increase from $2,000 to $2,500, an ACT score of 26-27 the scholarship amount would increase from $2,800 to $3,500, an ACT score of 28 the scholarship amount would increase from $4,000 to $5,000. He requested the committee’s support for enrollment management and recruiting quality students. He noted that the proposal increase would keep UNA competitive. There would be an $108,000 increase in new scholarship expense over 2010-2011. After discussion, Dr. Thornell made a motion recommending support of increases and importance of scholarships to be reviewed by the Executive Council and President Cale. Dr. Van Rensselaer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee then turned its attention to scholarship requests from Dr. David McCullough, Chair and Professor of Music and Theatre, brought forward by Dr. Thornell. An increase of $50,005 is requested which includes $27,000 for band scholarships, $4,500 for choral scholarships, $6,000 for theatre scholarships, and $3,600 for opera/music theatre scholarships. Remainder of requested funds would be applied to enhancement scholarships. It was noted that scholarship dollars has been lagging for an extended period of time. After discussion, Dr. Medders made a motion to approve new music scholarship funds of $45,000 and approve enhancement scholarship funds of $5,005. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The $50,005 would be new funds.

Chair Webb then revisited Mr. Linder’s request for the Athletic Department. A request of $84,100 based on a tuition increase ($181/hour) is requested. After discussion, Dr. Medders made a motion to approve $84,100 based on tuition increase ($181/hour) not including housing or fees. Dr. Thornell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Radio Broadcasts for Athletics – Mr. Linder

Mr. Linder informed the committee that currently UNA Athletics is broadcast with a 5-year agreement with the radio. The radio receives all net profits with none going to the University. UNA is currently checking into acquiring air time. If UNA purchases air time, an assistant to the Athletic Director would be needed for media relations. Person in this position would raise a minimum of $80,000 in media sales. No new money would be needed. After discussion, Mr. Linder made a motion to approve the new position if air time is available. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Westmoreland