Admissions Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2015

Members present: Jane Ann Williams (Chair), Lisa Christman, Leigh Ann Denhartog, Mike Scoles, Becky Rasnick, Karen has, Phillip Spivey

Members absent: Lauren Maxwell, Polly Walter

Spivey provided feedback from yesterday’s joint meeting with the Student Success and Retention Council. The consensus of both committees indicated that using the best information available, data informed decisions must be made, without the certainty of knowing all possible outcomes. Discussion followed.

Christman said UAF does not allow remedial students to attend full time; as such, UAF retention statistics appear better than they actually are. Discussion followed.

Williams confirmed Admissions counselors’ recruiting efforts will include targeting high performing minority students. There has not been any mention of eliminating recruitment in certain Arkansas counties. Recruitment will continue to include the Dallas and Memphis metro areas. Discussion followed.

Christman would like to see academic intervention with students after their first bad semester, instead of waiting until they have had two bad semesters (i.e., below 2.0 GPA). Spivey mentioned faculty use of the academic intervention forms which are routed to the Academic Advisors. Williams explained that GradesFirst is used to monitor academic performance of student athletes. GradesFirst will be available for international and UCAN student monitoring next. There are plans to roll out GradesFirst to all incoming freshmen this fall. Training has begun. Discussion followed.

The committee discussed the appraisal of their first admission standards recommendation for conditional admits (i.e., requiring a a minimum 2.45 GPA, a 17 ACT Composite/1210SAT combined (Critical Reading/Math/Writing). In addition, applicants with an ACT sub-score below 15 ACT will not be eligible for admission.). The committee discussed the impact of raising ACT scores.

Denhartog joined the meeting at 1:50 pm

Spivey mentioned the possibility of gaining support or endorsement on the admissions recommendations from the faculty and staff senates. Scoles reiterated his concern that raising admissions standards above the current 2.3 GPA as well as the proposed 2.45 GPA would impact minority student admission rate. He discussed commitment to the goals of AVID. Discussion followed.

Discussion continued regarding the impact of a 2.45 versus a 2.5 GPA requirement. Perry made a motion to increase the GPA requirement from 2.45 to 2.50 for conditional admits. Denhartog seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion passed, 6 in favor, 1 opposed.

The committee discussed the need to include all areas measured by the ACT (math/science/crtical reading/writing). Christman made a motion to require a minimum sub-score of 15 on each of the four ACT subject areas. Denhartog seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Motion passed, seven in favor.

Members requested data for the either/or scenarios of admissions options, which would include a set of descending and ascending admission requirements using GPA and ACT or SAT scores. Parameters for the data set requested will span ACT scores from 17 to 21 and GPAs from 2.25 to 2.75.

The meeting adjourned at 2;20 pm.