**University Admissions Committee**

**Report to Faculty Senate – November 15, 2015**

Chair: Kelley Erstine, Chief of Staff\*

Current Committee Members: Courtney Mullen, Director of Admissions\*

Becky Rasnick, Registrar

Mike Scoles, Faculty Senate CHBS

Lauren Maxwell, Faculty Senate COB

Polly Walter, Faculty Senate CFAC

Phillip Spivey, Faculty Senate CLA

Don Perry, Faculty Senate CNSM

Steve Ward, Faculty Senate COE  
Lisa Christman, Faculty Senate UC

Patricia Smith, Faculty Senate Exemplary Studies\*

*Please note: During the time in which the described meetings occurred, LeighAnn Denhartog and Jane Ann Williams were committee members for their respective roles as Interim Director of Admissions and Associate Provost for Assessment and Enrollment Support. Additionally, Patricia Smith was not appointed to this committee until the fall 2015 term. Therefore, Kelley Erstine, Courtney Mullen, and Patricia Smith were not a part of the described meetings.*

Meeting Dates:

December 1, 2014

January 7, 2015

January 16, 2015

January 30, 2015

February 13, 2015

February 18, 2015

February 20, 2015

February 27, 2015

March 6, 2015

March 11, 2015

March 18, 2015

April 16, 2015

**Charge**

To review and make recommendations relative to current University of Central Arkansas admissions guidelines and criteria and to make decisions regarding admission appeals.

**Summary of Activities**

* Based on a shared consensus from the President, Board of Trustees, and Faculty Senate, Dr. Steven Runge charged the committee with adjusting admission standards as needed to meet KPI goals.
  + The primary goal was to increase the graduation rate to 60% by 2021 (Fall 2016 cohort); the graduation rate during this meeting was 42%.
* “Traditional students” were redefined as U.S. citizens or resident aliens who are under 25 years of age (updated from 21 years of age) to align with Arkansas standards.
* The committee worked with Institutional Research (IR) to evaluate enrollment and graduation scenarios based on various ACT composite, ACT subscores, and GPA combinations.
* Based on information provided by IR, committee members voted to raise the ACT subscore requirement from 10 to 15 or higher within all testing areas (i.e., English, math, science, reading) for conditional admission.
  + Members reviewed how the increase would impact both graduation rates and minority enrollment. This review showed the following effects:
    - An increase in the graduation rate of 0.7%
    - A decrease of 48 students, of which nine would graduate
    - Of the 48 students not admitted, 25 would be minorities and six of those would graduate
* The minimum GPA requirement for conditional admission was raised from 2.30 to 2.5 for conditional admission.
  + This increase indicated the following effects:
    - An additional increase of 1.2% in the overall graduation rate
    - A decrease of an additional 68 students, of which only nine would graduate (a 13.2% graduation rate)
    - Of the 68 students not admitted, 24 would be minority students. Past data indicates that one of the 24 students would graduate (a 4.2% graduation rate).
* Data provided by IR indicated that an increase in GPA requirements would decrease the number of admitted and enrolled students but it would not have a significant impact on the number of graduates. Total effects of both changes include:
  + An increase of 1.9% in the overall graduate rate
  + A decrease of 116 students, of which 18 would graduate
  + Of the 116 students not admitted, 49 would be minorities and only seven would graduate
* The committee increased the minimum ACT score from 20 to 21 for unconditional admission to capture more students who need to take UNIV 1100.
* The committee elected to require all conditional admits take UNIV 1100.
* Non-traditional student admission requirements were updated to include compass exam scores, including:
  + Unconditional Admission: Algebra Test 41, Writing Test 80, Reading Test 83
  + Conditional Admission: Algebra Test 18, Writing Test 49, Reading Test 70
* Updated admission requirements were pass by the Board of Trustees on May 15, 2015.

**Current**

* Reviewing admission appeals as needed

**Future**

* Review of transfer admission requirements
* Review percentage of transfer students who need remediation and those that end up on academic probation
* Review international admission requirements