

Executive Cabinet Meeting Notes
Tuesday, Sept. 24, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Present: Ben Telesca, Bonnie Albright, Michelle Lancaster, Louis Harveson, Natalie Sandoval, Amanda Workman, Suzanne Harris, Eric Funasaki, Betse Esparza, Bonnie Warnock, Bernie Cantens, Carlos Hernandez, Barbara Tucker, Jorge Garza, Sally Roche, Sumatra Sengupta, and Laura Payne.

Dr. Harveson discussed the merits of the new PPOHA grant information which starts Oct. 1. Presented APM 3.11 dealing with Indirect Costs for grants. Indirect costs are the cost of doing business, paper, accounting, utilities, etc. New proposal includes a new breakdown of where indirect costs are allocated. Further discussion is needed to ascertain how this will impact the overall budget. Harveson made special note that this would only apply to research-based grants.

Dr. Roche presented a PRF for support staff for the College of Humanities and Sciences at Eagle Pass. Discussion regarding rate of pay. Proposal is the same as other College Deans and their Department Admin. Bonnie Albright is going to check to make sure the proposed salary is equitable and the positions will move forward.

Dr. Cantens brought APM 2.17, faculty development leave program. We currently have paid leave but it is only half pay. Proposal is to change the leave program to full pay for a semester. Dr. Bonnie Warnock added that the change in policy would not have a cost immediately. She also stated that there needs to be a thorough process for application and approval for faculty to be able to utilize this. Dr. Hernandez asked Dr. Cantens to work with the Deans to make a proposal to take to faculty senate.

Dr. Cantens discussed adjunct pay for graduate course overloads. Proposal is to pay faculty \$500 more for graduate classes than undergraduate classes.

In addition, he discussed independent study pay. These are technically not paid at this time by policy. However, they are paid in practice. For example, a class of one is paid at \$270. Proposal is to make this standard policy.

Finally, Bernie discussed current policy that pays \$500 in additional pay for undergraduate classes that have more than 20 students enrolled. The proposal for graduate courses is to have a \$500 bonus for enrollment over 15 students.

Dr. Cantens also proposed if there is a class that is an overload and does not meet the 10-student threshold, the class will be prorated per student based on the faculty stipend for the class. Discussion included that the University should decide which classes are on load and which are overloaded and this should be in policy. This should be a part of APM 2.8 and worked for next fiscal year.

Dr. Cantens discussed the Center for Teaching and Learning. The desire is to consolidate the myriad of strategies and programs which currently exist into this centralized center.

Dr. Garza discussed a Dual Credit Fair at EPISD schools on 10/2 and 10/3. 10/2 will be at CC Winn with a fair at the High School and on 10/3 at Eagle Pass High School. Ask is for programs to be at the fair with swag for students. Goal is to get 50 percent to continue at the University either at Eagle Pass or the Alpine campus.

Dr. Hernandez and Dr. Warnock presented a proposal of incidental fees for certain Kinesiology classes. This requires local approval only and is desired to start in Spring 2025. Motion approved and will begin Spring 2025.

Discussion about the candidates for Physical Plant Director. EC members shared their thoughts regarding candidates. Both are great choices for different reasons.

Michelle Lancaster shared that the equitable access for books opt out rate is 13 percent for the semester which is very good. Settled on Josten's as a vendor for graduation regalia. Campus outfitters want to have pop up shops for graduation regalia. The CIP project has been completed. First curriculum council meeting is this Friday with an estimated 120 curriculum changes coming to the committee.

Dr. Roche reported on College of Humanities and Sciences. Student count is 218 with eight faculty members, two of whom are brand new. Stated that there are eight faculty searches to do in the next cycle. Will submit several new programs and as a result hope to have more to offer students to increase enrollment.

Dr. Sengupta added there is another University in Piedras and administrators coming to meet on Thursday. They are not bilingual but apparently have about 20 branches across Mexico. Two new master's programs and six new emphasis areas in business. Seven new certificates also are now available. Each degree going forward will have a minimum of two certificates included. All master's programs will be delivered in eight week modalities.

Natalie Sandoval shared she is visiting Lamar Orange for the transfer fair. OC sully showcase is on 10/24. Admissions Counselors are kicking off TARAQ. Staff working with CC Winn this week. Perkins close out is tomorrow. Update on Lobo Promise, 31 awards have been given out. Average just over \$1,300. Apps are open for Fall 2025 with common app. Outreach is coming through Trellis. Asked if we have ever given a cord for international graduates.

Amanda Workman said we are hosting Alpine High School football this Friday. Concert sales are going well.

Dr. Warnock reported Cattle Drive is today at 6 p.m. Cattle drop off will be at President's yard. Wednesday evening is alumni donor dinner. Slack will start early on Thursday due to the largest number of contestants ever. Looking for additional parking spaces for student participants. New women's coach is starting Oct. 1, Timmie Hutchins. Former rodeo athlete who knows our program. Shuttle is challenging, but we are one approval away from using a hayride to make it happen.

Dr. Harris shared student engagement is up. Court of Criminal Appeals is next week. Homecoming is Oct. 19 with a week of activities planned. SACSCOC offsite committee review opportunity has already yielded important information.

Ben Telesca shared dorms should be ready by first week of November. Wellness release has been asked for by staff and he asked them to write a proposal.

Dr. Hernandez shared that he and Ben Telesca are traveling to an Excelencia event in Washington DC this next week. Additionally, we have received notice from the Lopez Foundation which allows us to participate in their scholarship process this coming year. We are on track with several construction process including Fine Arts Project, Housing and Museum.