Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee

June 3, 2008

Arts & Sciences Conference Room

The Strategic Planning and Budget Study Committee (SPBS) meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair Anna Lott. The following committee members were present: Dr. Kerry Gatlin, Ms. Tera Kirkman, Dr. Alan Medders, Ms. Sandra Poole, Dr. Steve Smith, Dr. Bill Strong, Ms. Lynn Underwood, Ms. Brenda Webb, and Dr. Garry Warren. Absentees were: Mr. Mark Linder, Mr. Kyle Mangum, Ms. Phyllis McGuire, and Mr. David Shields. Visitors were: President Cale, Dr. Priscilla Holland, Ms. Becky Taylor, and Ms. Donna Tipps.

An amendment was made to the agenda. Item IV. b. will be changed to read: Dr. Steve Smith – Proposed Tuition & Fees. Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the agenda as modified. Ms. Poole seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee then turned its attention to approval of the May 12 and May 22 minutes. A wording change was suggested for b.7. in the May 12 minutes. With this modification, Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the May 12 and May 22 minutes. Dr. Strong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

 President Cale informed the committee that the State Legislature had passed the education budget. UNA will receive a budget cut of $3,165,000. This information was shared with the UNA Board of Trustees at the board retreat last week. President Cale noted that he wants to accommodate the $1.4 million new funding initiatives approved by the SPBS Committee and meet the shortfall in the budget. He and Dr. Smith have been reviewing the budget and are reducing the existing budget while doing minimal harm.

Dr. Cale outlined the following to balance the budget:

1. A 12% tuition increase which will generate approximately $2.55 million.
2. Reduce the current budget by $1.1 million.
3. Pay off Banner project.
4. Add tuition revenue of approximately $1.35 million.

These proposals will balance the budget and leave $400,000 in excess revenue. President Cale noted that he is not anticipating any layoffs of personnel and will continue plans to hire new faculty. He also noted that freshmen applications are up 15-16%. The possibility of faculty and staff increases will not be known until after fall enrollment.

Dr. Smith discussed the 12% tuition increase with the committee. He distributed and reviewed two handouts (Attachments 1 and 2) listing possible tuition increases. With a 12% increase there will be a $16 increase for students taking up to 12 hours (tuition rate increase from $137 to $153). He also distributed and reviewed a handout, UNA Undergraduate Tuition Proposal for 2008-09 with Comparative Data (Attachment 3), with the committee. A handout was distributed entitled UNA Proposed Tuition, Fees, and Charges 2008-09 (Attachment 4) which will be a part of the Board’s book at the next meeting. This handout listed tuition increases for undergraduate and graduate tuition, non-resident fees, EMBA Program, special fee increases for approved courses, and an increase in late fees for internship applications and applications for admission to teacher education. There will be no increase in technology fees, student activity fees, student recreation facility fees, parking fees, international student fees, ESL fees, nursing distance learning fees, distance learning fees, facilities fees, and the health screening fees. Rent-Student Housing and meal plan rates were approved at the March 2008 board meeting. These were information items for the committee.

Other

President Cale informed the committee that there is an existing $3.2 million federal grant from the Federal Transportation Board with a 20% match by UNA for a maintenance facility. President Cale will take to the UNA board a request to move the maintenance and transportation facilities to the East Campus. Using this grant money, a new bus storage, bus maintenance and physical plant facility will be built on the East Campus. Also, he will take to the board a request to remodel the kitchen and purchase new equipment for the kitchen for the culinary arts program at the East Campus. A new grant of approximately $1,000,000 with matching funds from UNA will be used for energy purposes (new air conditioners and windows) for Keller Hall. These will be action items for the board and they are information items for the committee.

Ms. Underwood inquired of the status of funding for the Science/Nursing Building. President Cale noted that it is at the top of the list for major needs and UNA is looking for possible sources of funding.

Chair Lott expressed her appreciation for President Cale’s attendance at today’s meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Westmoreland