Admission and Retention Policies Committee
December 5, 2005
Minutes

Members Present: Larry Seese (Chair), Wendy Sharer, Randy Parker, John Kerbs, Natalie Stewart, Lee Grubb, Jayne Geissler

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM. Stewart served as secretary for the day and took the minutes.

Minutes from the previous meeting on November 7, 2005 were approved.

The committee discussed the Chancellor's veto of the Class Attendance Document. The Chancellor, the Provost, and the Athletic Director wrote a new paragraph that the Chancellor would like added to the beginning of the fourth paragraph of the existing document. The Chancellor would be willing to approve the document with this new addition. The Class Attendance document had passed the Senate, with the change of dropping the sentence that recommended that students missing more than 10% of the class might be advised to drop the class. The Chancellor's suggested change incorporates this idea again, stating that "student experiences that cannot be made up should be discussed" with the professor "while there is still opportunity to drop the course". The Chancellor's changes also include a sentence stating that instructors "are expected to honor valid University excuses". Wendy suggested blending the new paragraph with the fourth paragraph to more directly compare the responsibilities of the faculty and students. Discussion about this ensued. Randy made the motion to comply with the Chancellor's recommendation of putting the two new sentences at the beginning of the fourth paragraph. Discussion about this motion ensued, and a vote was taken. The motion to add the sentences at the beginning of the fourth paragraph per the Chancellor's request passed with a vote of 4 in favor and 3 against. These new changes will now need to go before the Senate again for a vote, and the entire process will be repeated.

Larry then discussed the status of the non-traditional policy. It did not pass in the Senate, and Larry felt that the document had very little support in the Senate. The Senate requested that the committee revisit the policy.

Larry passed out a handout discussing "Integrated Planning" at ECU. At a meeting for committee Chairs, the Chairs had been instructed to discuss potential specific goals for the University with each of their committees. This request and document was discussed for a short period of time. As a committee, we voted that it wasn't under the committees charge to deal directly with strategic goals for the University. Larry suggested that if any of the committee members had suggestions to contact Henry Peel directly.

The committee then discussed the written resolution from David Long for ECU to adopt a grading system that included plus and minus grades. The resolution hasn't formally come before the Senate. The committee discussed whether or not they wanted to write a formal proposal requesting the adoption of a plus and minus grading scale. Wendy mentioned integrating the change when the new computer system was implemented. John wondered about the prior concerns for this change. Randy expressed reluctance to change the grading scale, because he was concerned that it would lower the overall GPA of students, which he didn't think would be a good thing. The question arose about whether these concerns had been addressed with the Registrar. John referred to page 2 of the October minutes, which said that Donald Joyner and Angela Anderson had suggested "that students might find it harder to stay off probation with a plus/minus system." Larry said he would invite back the Registrar for the next meeting to discuss some of these concerns. John felt that making the change to a plus/minus system would help ECU be more in line with other Universities and their grading systems. An informal vote was taken at the meeting to see who supported creating a proposal for
adopting a plus/minus system. There were 4 votes in favor of creating a proposal, 1 against it, and two neutral.

Larry said he would invite the Registrar to the next meeting and the discussion would continue.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM.