PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING
Chapman Conference Room
Monday, August 11, 2008

ATTENDING: Anantha Babbili, Eliot Chenaux, Trent Hill, Flavius Killebrew, Jody Nelsen, Mary Sherwood

ABSENT: Paul Orser

GUESTS: Scott Street

Interim Athletic Director
There was discussion with Scott Street, interim athletic director. Killebrew informed Street about the e-discovery notice and the need for document preservation. He also stressed the need to be aboveboard in everything, to pay attention to following rules and procedures and to documentation, to look forward, and to stay focused on student athletes and doing what is right for them. Other topics included: ensuring coaches work appropriately with academic advisers, working with Tarpon Foundation members with Arthur Haas, pending contracts, appointment of a senior women’s athletic administrator and scheduling for the new wellness center.

Faculty Course Evaluations for Chancellor’s Program
Five questions are due by August 31 from the president/provost to the System. Babbili will circulate information to the deans and bring recommendations to PC on August 18.

Mission Statement and Objectives Revision
It was agreed to insert “federally designated” in front of Hispanic Serving Institution. Babbili will take the amended statement to Faculty Senate’s first meeting of the academic year.

The full statement would read: “Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi is an expanding, doctoral-granting, federally-designated Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) dedicated to excellence in teaching, research, creative activity and service. The university’s location on the Gulf of Mexico and on the cultural border with Latin America shapes its focus and provides the foundation for gaining national prominence. Engaging undergraduate and graduate students in a challenging educational experience within a supportive environment is the hallmark of its commitment to closing historical educational gaps and preparing graduates for lifelong learning and responsible citizenship in the global community.”

It was also agreed to use the following for the second objective under excellence: “Achieve national prominence, especially in programs where the university’s location provides special advantages, and sustain programs that have achieved national prominence.”

Committees and Councils
Killebrew needs to appoint four faculty members to the Intercollegiate Athletics Council and one community member to the Diversity Committee. Babbili is waiting on recommendations from two of the deans for the Athletics Council. Yolanda Olivarez was suggested as the community member for the Diversity Committee. Chenaux will contact Olivarez.

Replacing Kathy Winston
There was discussion of the status of searching for a replacement for Kathy Winston, who retires at the end of August. It was agreed it is a critical position and that Winston has a wealth of knowledge regarding policies, regulations, rules and procedures; agenda items; and the catalog.
Robert Nelsen is reviewing the Position Description Questionnaire (PDQ) and the job will be posted ASAP.

**SACS Update**
Babbili brought a list showing which programs required notification to SACS of substantive changes. There were several on the list that raised questions. **Babbili will contact former Provost Sandra Harper** regarding some of the programs identified as needing notification.

Babbili also presented an update on the Readiness Audit, identifying potential issues. Discussion included: the MOU with A&M-Kingsville on the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership; clarity of enrollment management processes and availability of information on them for students; faculty credentials; direct measures of learning for the core curriculum; and a clear, easy-to-access complaint process. The latter was discussed, and Chenaux reported he had researched this topic and that Texas Tech has a good process. **It was agreed that a working group would be established to develop a complaint process. Sherwood will convene the group, and it will include Dave Billeaux, Chenaux, Scott Lazenby; Sam Ramirez; and Christina Holzheuser.**

**Scholarships**
Babbili said the deans are concerned about being behind competitively on scholarships. The timing on availability of funds from the new $5 million scholarship endowment from Mr. Atkins was discussed. It was also mentioned that it would be helpful to engage the deans in scholarship fund raising.

**Faculty Meeting**
Topics for the faculty meeting on August 25 were discussed. Suggestions and possible presenters include:

- New procedure for academic dishonesty (Dave Billeaux to present)
- I-CARE and BITS (Behavioral Intervention Teams) for students with psychiatric problems (Chenaux)
- SACS Update (Babbili)
- New Academic Programs (Babbili)
- Engineering (Killebrew)
- Athletics (Killebrew)
- Scholarships (Hill)
- Facilities (Nelsen)

**PC Retreat**
Everyone will bring suggestions for retreat discussion topics to the next PC meeting.

**Minutes**
Minutes for July 28 and August 4 were approved.

**Governor’s Competitiveness Council Summit**
Killebrew reported on this meeting and said materials from it lay out the foundation of the governor’s budget plan. Criteria for judging bills is included, and should be built into our legislative presentations.