

Deans' Council Minutes--December 20, 2005

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) – Deans reviewed the summary from focus groups conducted by IR and supported the notion that customer service training would be useful.

Internet Degrees/Courses – Joyce Scott shared a comprehensive list of Internet courses taught and asked Deans to review for accuracy and possible new degree offerings.

Capstone Courses – Deans reported on the recommendations of their respective executive councils about continuation of capstone courses. A&S will retain in the context of the 120-hour degree; B&T will delete the capstone in favor of an advanced course in the discipline; and EHS will require a course in multicultural issues for certification and psychology students.

Scholarship Increases -- Increases in scholarships for the next academic year have been approved (attached). Deans recommended that we extend scholarships for transfer students who cannot complete degree requirements in four semesters and who are making good progress.

CB Graduate Education Advisory Committee Notes - (Attachment) – Allan Headley shared the minutes for the THECB Committee on which he represents the university.

Guidelines for Cooking on Campus - Joyce Scott reported that there has been some concern expressed about unsupervised preparation of meat dishes (student cookouts) for university functions. Concerns related to spoilage and/or inadequate cooking time.

Performance & Developmental Evaluation - (Attachment) – The briefer evaluation form has been edited and adopted for use this spring.

2007 Tuition and Fee - Joyce Scott shared a list of priority items that will require supplemental funding in FY 07 and sought Deans' input about the priorities and strategies for funding them. She also noted that A&M-C now has 5th lowest tuition among public universities in the state.

Adoption of E-College Course Management - (Attachment) Mary Hendrix reviewed recommendations from the Instructional Technology and Distance Education Committee for adoption of a new course management system. With the \$85,000 currently spent on Educator, the university would need an additional \$427,000 for annual fees and \$31,000 for course conversion. This would be a suitable use of the Distance Learning Fee. Decision will reside with PAC.

National Center for Public Policy & Higher Education—Provost distributed a study about Texas workforce projections and educational level. The study links state's economic health to how well state does in raising the educational level of minority and low-income citizens: failure to raise the educational level will result in declining revenue, taxes and employment rates.

Budget Presentation - Alicia Currin briefed the Deans on the status of the FY 06 budget and the various components of same.