

## **Summary of February 5, 2008 SAC Meeting:**

Academic Seed Funds (Research Proposals); Procedures for distribution of academic seed funds were discussed. Information on awards/funding has been given to Barb Stockwell who will release the funds. Provosts agreed to assemble notebooks of up to twelve proposals (that were not funded in the initial round) that might be considered for funding should additional funds become available. It was also agreed, to the extent possible, academic seed funds were to be used this fiscal year. SAC will consider a general statement to the University Community regarding the awards, their intent, distribution process and the like. Pursuant to the policy developed on Academic Seed Funds, the next round of proposals will be considered in March.

International Programs, Partnerships with China; A general discussion took place regarding the recent trip and the next steps to develop partnerships and exchanges. The VPAA will be meeting with groups on campuses to develop a report and recommendation for President Hamilton. A discussion outline setting forth a draft format for the Report has been written and forwarded to the Provosts and Deans.

New Program/Degree Programs, SAC Web page. Procedures for Web Page maintenance and inquiry were discussed. Staff from SW will be working with assigned staff from each MAU to insure the web page is maintained and updated regularly. The VPAA will also inquire what lead time may be necessary in order for new Programs/Degrees to be placed on the BOR agenda. Proposals from UAS were received and a proposal from UAA was approved. A proposal from UAF will be forthcoming.

Design School Proposal; SAC revisited this idea as assigned by the President and BOR. There is interest in the examination of a system wide program. Funding to bring faculty together to discuss the idea of a design program was requested. SAC members believe a design option may be feasible, however interested faculty will have to be assembled to discuss/consider curricular integrity and alignment, as well as other administrative and academic concerns. SAC also discussed the “demand” for such programs and how demand might be assessed. This item will appear on the agenda for the March meeting. Subsequent to the SAC meeting Regent Wickersham expressed support (to examine this option) at the BOR.

Professional Development for Administrative Personnel; SAC heard a presentation from Ann Sakamoto from SW HR regarding the possibility of developing and implementing a professional development program for academic administrators at UA. There was general interest and the feeling was expressed that such a program(s) might be of value if conceived and presented appropriately. Two categories of programs were discussed; Track 1: Higher Level Needs (Leadership, Managing Change, Creating an Entrepreneurial Culture etc., related to “big picture” issues) and, Track 2: Compliance related concerns, (training to address sexual harassment, and the like). It was agreed that Track 2 matters were important and would be needed on demand (perhaps through a distance delivered modality) as new Directors and Deans are hired. It was felt Track 1 topics might be valuable to more experienced administrators. SAC considered briefly the costs associated with these programs. It was felt that there may be value in having seasoned UA administrators present “best practices” sessions on various topics of interest. Ms. Sakamoto agreed to confer with all Provosts and their representatives and return to SAC with a formal proposal. SAC will wait to consider a formal proposal before further discussion. This discussion might dovetail with a response by SAC to the Report prepared by Quatt Associates (previously forwarded to SAC members for review).

Non Credit Metric; A continuation of the discussion regarding the development of metrics for non credit activities and programs. SAC is working on the questions concerning what will and what will not be counted, and how such activities will be assessed. It was felt this was a very important topic and SAC agreed to place this as the first agenda item in March.

System wide Strategic Academic Plan; A continuation of the discussion (the topic was also referenced in the McTaggart Report which has been sent to SAC for review/comment and which will be placed on the March Agenda). Such a plan might identify distinctive educational and programmatic goals for the MAU's over the next three to five years. Discussions of this topic are very preliminary at this time. SAC will address two questions at the March meeting; what kinds of issues and topics might be included in a system wide plan and what groups/constituencies should be involved in the initial formation of the plan.

Distance Education; SAC was informed that a recommendation by the ETT will be put on the agenda for the March meeting. The ETT recommendation and background information has already been sent to SAC members.

Agenda for SAC, March 18<sup>th</sup> 12 00 to 4 00 pm, location in Anchorage TBA.

- Continuation of discussion/development of metrics for non credit activities and programs, and preparation for upcoming PBB meetings/presentations;
- Program Approvals from UAS, possibly UAF and UAA;
- Continuation of discussion on Design School program options;
- Continuation of discussion on the system wide strategic academic plan;
- Distance Education; initial discussion of the recommendation and background material received from the ETT;
- McTaggart and Quatt Reports; Initial discussions of the reports.
- Miscellaneous matters (report on SAC web page, discussion of possible WCET representative, etc.)