Forum Meeting Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Attendance: Brian Ammons, Crystal Ebert, Teresa Imfeld, Evan Wantland, Phil Otterness, Tom Wilder, Phil Jamison, Stan Cross, Jeff Keith, Dylan Suter

start time: 4:14 p.m. end time: 5:13 p.m.

1. Minutes from February 13, 2013 approved

2.Business

a. Substantive Change Policy

- When the college goes through a substantive change, a policy must be in place in which the proposed change is brought to Warren Wilson's accrediting body, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). This process could take a year, so it is important to plan ahead for major changes.
- The role of the SACS liaison officer, who is now Ali Climo, is to communication with SACS and to determine what qualifies as a substantive change. The liaison determines if and when the college should go through the process of SACS.
- Something that is considered a substantive change is something that is not consistent with our mission.
- Steve: All those in favor: 10. Oppose:0
- Motion to recommend approval of Substantive Change Policy
 - Vote: Yes: 10; No: 0; Abstentions: 0.

b. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

- President Steve Solnick asked that a task force surrounding the MLK holiday be formed, to think of ways that the college could better honor the holiday.
- On the Tuesday following MLK day, not holding classes but having work crew meetings would allow for work training, which needs to happen at the beginning of the year. The college could also do some more programming during the day on Tuesday, with seminars and speakers for students, faculty and staff to attend.
- Because this is a presidential task force, this is merely an opportunity for Forum to either endorse the recommendations or not.
- These recommendations would take two days out of the academic year, and as of right now, it is still undetermined whether these two days would disappear, or if they would be added elsewhere.

- Students would arrive on campus Sunday, and celebrate MLK day, perhaps by tapping into community events that students, faculty and staff have not been able to attend in the past, because they have had school and work. On the Tuesday following the holiday
- The Work Program Office may have to consider allowing people to work on Saturday and Sunday before MLK day.
- If the recommendation to not hold classes on Monday and Tuesday is endorsed, a new task force would be formed, which would entail an inclusive discussion about what should be offered on Tuesday, after the holiday.
- Forum decides to take each recommendation separately. First recommendation, to make MLK day an official holiday, endorsement:
 - Vote: Yes: 10; No: 0; Abstentions: 0.
- The task force talked about not having the Tuesday after MLK day be the traditional triad day. Triad day is usually confusing for students, but this Tuesday would be seen as more of a community day, and would be marketed to students as that.
- Second recommendation, of further, inclusive discussions surrounding the Tuesday following MLK day endorsement:
 - Vote: Yes: 10; No: 0; Abstentions:0.

c. Memorial Day and Wednesday of Thanksgiving Holiday Policy

- The Human Relations personnel committee discussed the policy recommendation of making both Memorial Day and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving into official holidays. Classes would not be in session. These days would not be in place of other holidays that the staff get off for. If the recommendation passes, and if the president approves it, the policy should go into effect this coming Memorial Day.
- It was decided that the issue of Labor Day should be addressed by another group.
- Memorial Day and the Wednesday before Thanksgiving will be paid holidays.
- Motion to recommend that the Wednesday preceding Thanksgiving, as well as Memorial Day, be made official College holidays
 - Vote: Yes: 10; No: 0; Abstentions: 0.

d.Report on Alcohol Policy from Jonathan Ehrlich

• The Alcohol Policy will be broken up into two separate parts. It will deal with the registration of events in which alcohol will be served, and procedures for alcohol purchases. President Solnick felt as though conflating all of these issues into one policy would be very difficult. Solnick will reach a decision shortly.

Chrystal Ebert left Forum @ 5:00 pm

e. Legal Indemnification Policy

- The legal indemnification policies of other benchmark schools were referred to when revising Warren Wilson's policy.
- Each employee is covered under Warren Wilson's insurance. The policy does not need to be expanded to cover the license holders in the facilities department, as each employee is covered under the insurance.
- The policy covers criminal charges, but it is not clear whether civil charges are also included.
- Recommendations for clarity: In the third paragraph, the first sentence should read "...including **indemnified** beyond the coverage..."
- Other language is also unclear. Policy should be further clarified, and then Forum can vote on it later.
- Recommendation to send the policy back to committee. Before the end
 of the year, a special Forum meeting can be planned, and the policy can
 be voted on then, as long as there is quorum. Recommendation
 seconded.

3.Adjournment

The meeting will adjourn to the next Forum meeting scheduled at the start of the next academic year.