

University Center Policy Board Minutes

Friday March 27, 2009

University Center – Bayou City Room

Members Present: Mary Elhardt, Marilyn Golub, Micah Kenfield, Andrew Michael, and Dr. Richard Olenchak

Members Absent: Diane Bruxvoort, Zenaida Chairez, Kevin Covington, Sara Haynes, Ashton Herring, Judah Johns, Vanessa Nwaozo, Sean Tarver and Christopher Zimmerly

Support Staff Present: Keith T. Kowalka, Cheryl Grew-Gillen, Lawrence Daniel and Linda G. Jauregui

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Kenfield at 1:08 PM.

II. Approval of Agenda

- No quorum present, agenda could not be approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes from October 31, November 21, 2008, January 23 and March 6, 2009

- No quorum present, previous meeting minutes could not be approved.

IV. Chairperson's Report (Micah Kenfield)

UC 2010 Initiative Update

- There is a possibility that the persons traveling to Austin, Texas for testimony at the legislative session of the UC Fee Ceiling legislation bill will be going on April 1st. Dr. Lee informed Mr. Kowalka that it appears this will be the date the bill will be presented and discussed in the Higher Education Committee of the Texas House.

Vietnamese Flag Policy Update

- Chair Kenfield informed everyone that the vote taken by email asking for the placement of the Heritage Vietnamese flag in the WAL passed. He is in the process of drafting a resolution.

V. Committee Reports

Facilities Use and Policy Committee (Andrew Michael)

- Chair Michael stated that there was no report at this time

Lease Operations Committee (Ashton Herring)

- Chair Herring was not present, no report at this time

Long Term/Current Projects Committee (Christopher Zimmerly)

- Chair Zimmerly was not present, no report at this time

VI. UC Staff Reports

Report from Executive Director Kowalka

Personnel Updates

- There are no changes at this time. There are still openings needing to be filled for an Executive Housekeeper and a replacement for Mr. Nguyen in UC Technology Support.

Food Services Cost Recovery

- Our office has received the first payment for the invoice send to the office of Business Services (which covers the months of September-December 2008). This is a positive sign for the future as well to ensure student fees are not subsidizing a for-profit business.

2010 Initiative – UC Fee Increase

- There was a meeting held with Dr. Lee to discuss the UC Fee Ceiling increase proposed legislation to be addressed in Austin, Texas. In addition to Dr. Lee and Mr. Kowalka the five (5) persons designated to go at this time are; Chair Kenfield, Vice-Chair Michael, Ms. Elhardt, Mr. Johns and Ms. Morgan Parker.

Vietnamese Flag Policy

- The Vietnamese Community stated that they are happy that the Heritage Flag will be added to the flags in the WAL.

Report from Associate Director Grew-Gillen

Personal Development Forms Update

- There are still students who have not turned in the Spring PDF forms. All of them should have received an email asking them to please turn these in as soon as possible.

March for Babies Participation

- A new web banner button has been added to the UC website making it easy for anyone wanting to sign up on the UC team. Currently there are about eleven (11) persons on the team. If anyone would like to join us on April 26th please sign up.

Report from Associate Director Daniel

ScholarChip Challenge

- Have had a number of students already sign up, will continue to try and get more students involved, sponsors should increase their donations as registration grows.
- The plan now is to have the first thru fifth place winners share the money.
- Will be held on April 17th and 18th in the UC Houston Room, please ask all students you know to participate.

Spring Semester Marketing Plans

- Nothing new to report at this time.

Commuter Services Update

- The Commuter Services area is being used by a lot of students. We would like to see this area opened up by possibly adding two (2) more kiosks and maybe change the entrance area.
- If any members present have any suggestions to continue increasing commuter student involvement, please contact either Mr. Daniel or Ms. Jackson.

VII. Old Business

WAL Flag Policy

- A map of proposed new flag locations for flags needing to be added was distributed.

Food Services Cost Recovery

- Nothing new at this time, payment was received for first invoice sent.

UCPB Constitution Amendment – UC 2010 Initiative Representative (Tanea Tahir)

- Chair Kenfield stated that no appointment could be made at this time. There was not a quorum present nor was Ms. Tahir present.

UC Policy Board Member At-Large Process

- Applications are due by April 10th. We hope to have those available to review at the next UCPB meeting on April 17th so some interviews can be scheduled to fill the open positions.

Facilities Use/Television Policy

- Chair Michael stated that he had received a request from Channel 6 to be able to broadcast UH campus news on designated days and hours on the Commuter Services television. There is a concern that since there is no way to monitor channels, students might change from Channel 6 at any time.
- Chair Kenfield suggested that maybe signage could be installed stating what day and time Channel 6 would be broadcasting UH campus news and that broadcasting would be available on that particular television.
- Mr. Kowalka asked if Channel 6 will be functioning during the summer months.
- Chair Michael will gather information and bring to the next UCPB meeting.

VIII. New Business

UCPB Members

- Chair Kenfield wanted to make a motion to suspend four (4) members who have not attended meetings since the first (1st) or second (2nd) meeting. Their absence puts a hardship on the Board who cannot conduct productive meetings for lack of quorum.
- Ms. Elhardt asked if there was a warning process that should be applied before moving forward with suspension.
- Mr. Kowalka stated that some of these persons were at-large members but the bylaws state that certain organizations will have representation on the Board permanently. He suggested that any of the members representing organizations be approached with the possibility of another organization member being appointed to take their place since UCPB meetings appear to conflict with the current member who has been appointed.
- This will be addressed prior to the next meeting by Chair Kenfield.

Student Technology Advisory Board

- Chair Kenfield stated that he had been speaking with Mr. Jim Bradley since the last UCPB meeting and they will be meeting next Thursday to work out the details for a Student Technology Advisory Board. He will inform members of the meeting outcome.
- Mr. Kowalka added that he, Mr. Bradley and Ms. Leslie Harris, President of HiEd, Inc., dba Cougar Byte, had been in discussions the past two weeks and all are fully committed to giving HiEd, Inc. lease space for one more year.

Congratulations – Micah Kenfield

- Congratulations were in order as Chair Kenfield received notification that he was accepted into the UH Graduate Program for Higher Education.

IX. Announcements

- Cougar Casino @ Frontier Fiesta – March 26 -28
- ScholarChip Challenge – April 17 & 18
- ACUI Region 12 Award Application Deadline – April 24
- March for Babies – April 26

- UCAF End of the Year Celebration – May 5

X. Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned by Chair Kenfield at 1:33PM.
- Next Meeting Date(s)

Friday, April 17, 2009

Friday, May 8, 2009

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