The University of Louisiana at Monroe  
Academic Deans Council  
December 2, 2009  

Members Present: Denny Ryman, Jeff Cass, Ron Berry, Greg Leader, Sandra Lemoine, Eric Pani, Steve Richters

The meeting was called to order by Provost Richters on December 2, 2009 at 9:00 AM in LIBR 643. The following items were discussed.

1. Welcome  
   - Provost Richters welcomed members

2. Richters out  
   - Dates listed for SACS and PERC meeting
   - Vacation dates listed

3. PELL eligible students  
   - ULM looks bad compared to other state institutions based on BOR web site data (retention, grad rates, etc)
   - New deal available to students; information distributed; different programs listed for years 1 and 2, years 3 and 4, and year 5 or more
   - Financial Aid asked for plan and will take care of this but tell people in areas specifically listed as eligible

4. Moodle memo  
   - Draft distributed
   - Let Pani know if any problems exist by end of day

5. Retirement/Buyout incentive policy  
   - Draft of policy for faculty retirement/buyout distributed
   - Discussed by BOS this week
   - Three paths: phased retirement, retirement incentive, buyout of tenured faculty
   - Faculty Senate informed policy will be coming
   - Plan must demonstrate savings so ability to replace people will depend on salary of new hire

6. Number of hours to graduate  
   - All programs must reduce number of hours to graduate to 120 unless accreditation demands prevent this; should be instituted no later than 2011-2012 catalog
   - Core curriculum will remain the same for now but likely will be reviewed next year
   - Broader discussion may be needed to prevent elimination of free electives
   - Question raised if associate degrees will have upper limit too, but indication from PERC is that 4-year institutions may not be able to keep associate degrees unless regional demand exists
7. State of budget
   - Most people don’t believe that mid-year cut will occur this year, but this is the time of year when such cuts often occur
   - Still unclear but will know if cuts will occur within the next two weeks
   - Continue to expect problems with unfunded mandates

8. Wintersession and Spring capacity
   - Current enrollments for these semesters distributed
   - Need process for addressing enrollment needs
   - Waiting lists should be created when courses fill
   - CBA testing CSCI 170 as hybrid with 1 day lecture, 1 day lab so can use 40-computer room

9. Online adjunct faculty
   - How do we find people outside Monroe area to teach for us?
   - Want to have adjuncts to teach most online courses in fall; develop plan for each college

10. Other
    - Developing information commons in library; Don Smith observed that more than half of students in library have a laptop; talk to faculty about policy of requiring students to have laptop; can be included in cost of attendance so financial aid can be used for purchase
    - Need to provide sufficient tech support for students and faculty as well as infrastructure to handle additional users
    - Pool together orders for computers

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric A. Pani
Associate Provost
December 2, 2009