MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION
Faculty Advisory Council
Minutes of the September 21, 2010 Meeting
Anne Arundel Community College
Cade Building, Room 219
Arnold, MD


Commission Staff Present:
Genny Segura, FAC liaison; George Reid, MHEC Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs; Chou-Hwa Ni (Alex), MHEC’s Fulbright Scholar from Taiwan

Call to Order: Frank Alt, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. He welcomed Gail Medford, who was returning after a one year absence.

Minutes: The minutes for the May, 2010 meeting were not available.

Items:

Bill Montgomery commented on the passing of Jill Irey on July 26, 2010 and distributed copies of Celebrating the Life of Jill Irey from a memorial service held on August 22.

Frank Alt brought a sympathy card that was passed around for members to sign.

Linda Martinak announced the 10/2/2010 MCAPD Conference of Adjunct Faculty Development which is being held at Anne Arundel Community College. The theme is Creating Success. Information is available on the MCAPD website.

Frank Alt introduced Dr. George Reid, MHEC’s Assistant Secretary for Planning and Academic Affairs. Dr. Reid briefed the Council on the following topics:

- **Chou-Hwa Ni (Alex), MHEC Fulbright Scholar from Taiwan**
  Dr. Lyons and Dr. Reid arranged for a shadowing activity with a high ranking Taiwanese. This resulted in a 90 day stay by Chou-Hwa Ni, during which time Alex will be observing and working with MHEC. Alex is Section Chief with the Ministry of Education in the Republic of China’s Department of Higher Education.

- **Status of State Plan**
  Copies of the 2009 Maryland State Plan for Postsecondary Education, June 2009 were distributed. Dannette Howard, who is Director - Planning, Research Analysis and Workforce Development, will be evaluating the Plan when she returns from family leave. It is anticipated she will return before Thanksgiving.
**Complete College America Update**

Complete College America (CCA) was founded by Stan Jones, who served as the Commissioner of Higher Education in Indiana where he had worked to reform higher education. Complete College America is working to attain President Obama’s goal of having about 65% of high school graduates students earn college or associate degrees.

Maryland is a member of CCA’s Alliance of States. CCA’s website can be found at www.completecollege.org. Dr. Reid was chosen as the state liaison for Maryland. The governor’s office chose the members of the state team for this ongoing project. The statewide goal, established by Governor Martin O’Malley, is to have 50% graduation rates by 2020. Each institution can establish its own goal.

**Purpose of Segmental Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting**

Dr. Lyons chairs the SAC. This council, which includes representation from each of the six “segments” of the post-secondary community, meets monthly and advises Dr. Lyons on issues that are important across campuses. SAC has no statutory authority.

**Textbook Affordability Act Progress Report**

This act, which was passed in 2007, allows faculty and students to check prices as well as other textbook information for their courses online. The act is in a transitional period through 2011 and goes into effect thereafter.

**Candace's Responsibilities**

Candace Caraco, who interfaced with the legislature and the governor’s office, is no longer with MHEC. Dr. Sue Blanshan, MHEC’s Director of Academic Affairs, and Dr. Reid will be assuming many of her responsibilities. This is one indicator that MHEC is understaffed.

**Applied Baccalaureate**

Although the applied baccalaureate is not available in Maryland, it is available in other states, such as California, Texas and Florida, where some community colleges offer 4-year degrees. These technical degrees can be available through either community colleges or 4-year institutions.

**Cancelation of Educational Policy Committee Meeting**

The meeting scheduled for 09/10/10 was cancelled due to a light agenda.

**State of Delaware and Northeast Maryland and Higher Education**

Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) is a major army base, located along the Susquehanna River at the beginning of the Chesapeake Bay. It is one of the fastest growing areas for higher education. As a result of the Base Realignment and Closure program (BRAC), sixty thousand residents are re-locating there,
mostly people who have earned postgraduate level degrees. They will require
continuing education as well as opportunities to earn doctorates or to do post-
doctoral work. As a result, there has been much discussion about establishing a
higher educational center in that area within the next year or so. The objective
would be to establish a "one-stop shop" for all their educational needs. Major
areas of interest will be weaponry and cyber security. More will be known later
this fall.

- **Mission Statements**
  The deadline for all colleges and universities to submit mission statements is
  October 31, 2010. The FAC’s participation in writing these statements is strongly
  encouraged. A possible change is that some schools will want to move from
  being colleges to becoming universities. The statements go to Dr. Reid and are
  reviewed by Dr. Segura. Ones that require or request changes will go before
  MHEC. COMAR designates the agency to do that.

- **Growth and Graduation Rates**
  Maryland needs to graduate an additional 20,000 to 23,000 students annually.
  What load will individual colleges carry? Some colleges already exceed goals.
  For instance, St. Mary's College has an 85% graduation rate. It is going to
  happen.

  Teresa Bridger commented on the role of community colleges and their low
  graduation rates. Some students leave community colleges before completing a
degree but do go on to 4-year institutions. Thus, these students achieve their
  goals without earning an AA. If a person gets a degree at another school, can
  the community college also give a degree and count that student as a graduate?
The example offered was a student who has 54 hours completed at a community
college and then completes 12 hours at Frostburg State University.

**Retreat**

Frank Alt next introduced Laura Scott of the Center for Leadership and Organizational
Change at the University of Maryland. Frank wanted Laura to serve as a facilitator in
developing a roadmap of the direction we want to take during this current AY, viz., what
goals do we want to accomplish this year and how should we go about doing so.
Although FAC has no budget, we do have leeway in what we address.

Possible topics to get us started in this journey are college preparedness and academic
integrity.

Laura Scott divided us into groups to brainstorm and arrive at topics of interest. Out of
the list of 29 topics stated by the groups (she will provide us with a list of those topics),
she helped us select those topics that were deemed as ones we wanted to focus on
during this academic year.

One subcommittee was set up on increasing or maintaining quality in light of the
increasing number of students. That committee includes Jo-Ellen Asbury, Teresa
Bridger and possibly Pat Alt. Another subcommittee is looking at the role of FAC. It includes Sharon Fechter, Frank Alt, Bill Montgomery and possibly Curt Raney. Issues pertaining to adjunct faculty will be explored by Linda Martinak, Sharon Fratta-Hill and Carla Showacre.

Frank recommended that each subcommittee prepare a one-page on the issues and possible recommendations.

Should we wish to contact Laura, her e-mail address is ldscott@umd.edu.

**ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting adjourned around 3:25 p.m.