UVI Senate Meeting Minutes

BUS 110 (STT) and EVC 807 (STX)

Friday, February 14, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Hall            Shirley Lake-King
Nancy Morgan          Haldane Davies
Camille McKayle       Tina Koopmans
Maria Fleming         Dayle Barry
Frank Mills           Patricia Harkins-Pierre
Raquel Santiago-Silver Cherie Wheatley
E. Aracelis Francis   Joshua Edwards

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED

Kevin Dixon           Leslyn Tonge
Dionne Jackson        Kimberlee Smith
Nicole Gibbs          Bernard Castillo

OTHERS PRESENT

Dannica Thomas

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Morgan called the meeting of the Senate to order at 1:15 pm Friday, February 14, 2014.

ROLL CALL

A quorum was established.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2013 AND JANUARY 17, 2014

Chair Morgan entertained a motion to approve the minutes for November 15, 2013. The motion was moved by Senator Barry and seconded by Maria Fleming. The motion carried unanimously and was approved.

Chair Morgan entertained a motion to approve the minutes for January 17, 2014. The motion was moved by Senator Edwards and seconded by Senator Wheatley. Senators Barry and Fleming abstained from the vote.

REPORTS

Senior Army Reserve Officer Training Corps (SROTC) Program MOU - Senator Hall

All Senators have received the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the SROTC Program via email. Senator Hall presented the MOU to the Senate for information purposes as the draft will be sent to all
shared governance constituency groups in the upcoming weeks. The MOU will be between the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Sixth Brigade, Eastern Region, University of the Virgin Islands, Virgin Islands National Guard and the Government of the Virgin Islands. The SROTC Program will be at the University of the Virgin Islands as a partnership school to the host school, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Sixth Brigade, Eastern Region. The program was established in the Fall 2004. The goals of the partnership is to provide a pool of commissioned officers for VING and the US Army by developing a successful program that will commission 5 or more officers annually; to equip UVI students with the discipline and leadership skills that would be beneficial to life and service in the US Virgin Islands and other global communities; to assist in the changing of imbalance in the female to male student ratio at the University of the Virgin Islands; and to provide program graduates that may be assimilated in the community and provide leadership in both the public and private sectors.

There were some concerns highlighted in the agreement, to include the government financial support of the program. The government involvement is substantial. Currently, all faculty for the program are contractors from the US Army headquarters in Puerto Rico; they are not UVI staff/faculty, which is subject to change. They are not eligible to receive UVI benefits; however, if this agreement is approved by all appropriate bodies, they will receive UVI staff/faculty benefits. If the government approves and financially supports the program, a budget will be allocated accordingly. If not, the University of the Virgin Islands will continue to provide the contractors with staff/faculty status. Senator Hall’s goal is to present the MOU at the June Board of Trustees meeting upon feedback from the various constituency groups.

**Update on other MOUs - Senator Davies**

Senator Davies provided the status of two additional MOUs with the Government of Grenada, Carriacou, and the Government of the UK, British Virgin Islands (BVI). UVI started with the BVI because a great number of students are from the British Virgin Islands. UVI met with the officials from the BVI; however, the MOU is on hold because of one primary reason, in which the BVI will commit fifty students to attend UVI annually in lieu of the UVI discount. However, after further negotiation with the BVI government, the number of students was reduced to forty students. It is noted that the BVI government offers 150 scholarships each year; hence, UVI is seeking forty of those scholarships annually. Currently, the BVI has a policy that supports students attending any university; however, that policy is currently being revised to make UVI the primary institution of choice/preference for BVI students. High school students will be able to attend UVI directly after the completion of high school. The Inter-Virgin Islands Council is co-chaired by both governments, BVI and USVI, which meets on a regular basis to ensure functional cooperation exist and is maintained between both governments. There is an upcoming meeting on March 20, 2014 in the BVI, in which UVI representation will be present. BVI students will continue to pay the higher fee until the agreement is approved. Other details included in the agreement are faculty exchange, shared research and consultancy between both territories.

The Government of Grenada, Carriacou, agreement was revised by former Vice Provost for Access and Enrollment for UVI, Judith Edwin, and is being reviewed by the Attorney General’s office. Hopefully, the agreement will be brought to closure in the near future. The President’s office is still awaiting feedback from the Governments of Anguilla, St. Martin and Antigua and Barbuda.

Chair Morgan entertained a motion to adjust the agenda to allow Senator Davies to present the remainder of his reports to ensure that he makes his return flight to St. Thomas. The motion was moved
by Senator Barry and seconded by Senator Harkins-Pierre. The motion carried unanimously and was approved.

**Professional & Promotional Policy - Senator Hall**

Senator Hall presented the framework for the Professional and Promotional Policy since a document was not available at the time of the meeting. The policy is one of the presidential goals, in which Cabinet is working on. Hopefully by the end of the month, a document will be sent to all shared governance constituency groups to allow 45 days to review prior to moving forward, as required by the bylaws. The policy will focus on administrators and staff, and not faculty since the faculty policy manual governs promotion and professional development for faculty. A few highlights of the policy, focus on principles and how the principles will be imbedded into the institution. Once an employee finishes their probationary period, managers will work with staff regularly to determine their career direction and plan. The second principle indicates that in order for that to be possible, professional development needs to be in place to gain experience and knowledge to grow into a higher role. Also, those moving up into higher levels and not being promoted to another position will also be included into the policy. Leadership development will be developed with the Institute for Leadership and Effectiveness, which is the third principle. Leadership development will focus on a leadership model for the University like similarly done for external entities.

**UVINext - Senator Davies**

The UVINext process is moving along and closure will be forthcoming. 89 percent of departments for administrative services have completed their respective questionnaire. Those who haven't responded will be impacted like those who have. Senator Santiago-Silver indicated that those, 11 percent, who haven’t submitted their questionnaires for administrative services will not be able to due to numerous missed deadlines. Hence, the administrative services taskforce will no longer accept outstanding questionnaires.

Senator Mckayle-Stolz indicated that 60 percent of the questionnaires for academic services were submitted. The deadline was scheduled for Friday, February 14, 2014. The academic services taskforce is pushing to have more questionnaires completed by the deadline stated above.

Senator Davies urged co-chairs to gather outstanding questionnaires prior to the deadline. Once completed, the consultant’s final report will be presented to the shared governance constituency groups for feedback.

**Legislative Bills: Dual Credit and Credit for Prior Learning - Senator Mckayle-Stolz**

There are many things happening in the P-16 collaborative initiative, to include two legislative bills that were passed, Dual Credit and Credit for Prior Learning. UVI has a committee working together to develop a MOU to govern the dual credit roll out for UVI, school districts and private schools. Hopefully, in Fall 2014, students will be able to sign up for the Dual Credit program in Spring 2015.

UVI is not the first institution adopting the Credit for Prior Learning legislative bill. Students will present portfolios and an approving entity will determine their eligibility and/or exemption status, if applicable. These bills have the potential to increase enrollment and do other great things for UVI.
Man-Up - Senator Davies

Senator Davies thanked everyone on both campuses for making the 4th annual Man-Up conference possible. It was a very good conference with two dynamic speakers, Baruti Kafele and Jonathan Sprinkles. This year, the logistics for the events were better planned, in which students were fed within 15 minutes, and the DJ spinoff was well received on both campuses. The DJ spinoff will be integrated into future Man-Up conferences during lunch time. The conference will be moved from the first week in February to the second week. UVI will speak with the Department of Education to determine the best end time for the conference for all schools, speakers and others who participate. An endowed scholarship fund was created for the event, in which two scholarships in the amount of $1,500 were awarded at this year's conference to deserving males that applied and were accepted into UVI. The goal is to increase the number of scholarships disbursed at the Man-Up conference. For next year’s Man-Up conference, Mr. Tyler Perry and General Collin Powell were identified as potential guest speakers.

Chair Morgan, who attended the program, felt that it was very successful. As a suggestion for future programs, she asked that perhaps there could be more widespread discussions of topics to allow for greater participation in the community for follow-up activities. Senator Davies indicated that topics are made available, but would look into options for expansion.

Senator Hall thanked Senator Davies for his leadership on the Man-Up conference initiative.

Building Renovations and Grand openings - Senator Hall

The University is continuously trying to improve the quality of facilities on both campuses. On Wednesday, February 12, 2014, the opening of the commuter lounge in the Sports and Fitness Center on St. Thomas took place. Senator Hall thanked Ms. Doris Battiste and her team for their leadership on this project.

There was also the official opening for the Caribbean Cultural Center and Center for Spirituality and Professionalism on the Albert A. Sheen campus on Friday, February 14, 2014. The space was formerly utilized by the RT Park main office. The space is very inviting and staff was encouraged to visit the space. The space was developed in memory of the late Professor, Gene Emmanuel. On February 27, 2014, the opening of the newly renovated College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences building will take place. The grand opening for the radio station studio, Human Resources office, and music classroom on the Albert A. Sheen campus will be forthcoming. Senator Hall indicated that Ms. Koopmans is doing a great job upgrading the furniture and equipment in selected classrooms. More renovated spaces will be coming online in Summer 2014.

Congratulatory Announcements - Senator Hall

The University of the Virgin Islands is among 15 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) chosen to participate in a new, multi-year collaboration of institutions designed to bolster innovation, commercialization and entrepreneurship efforts on their respective campuses. Dr. Faley will lead the team with Dr. Wayne Archibald, Dr. Stanley Latesky, and graduate student Howard Forbes, who is studying marine and environmental sciences. The pre-conference symposium will be hosted jointly by
the APLU, the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance, the United Negro College Fund, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Mr. Kevin Dixon applied and was chosen as one of the first White House All Stars. Drs. Hall and McKayle wrote recommendation letters on Mr. Dixon's behalf. Senator Hall stated that Mr. Dixon is an outstanding representation of UVI.

Chair Morgan suggested that all senators send congratulatory notes to Mr. Kevin Dixon. Chair Morgan also offered congratulatory remarks on behalf of the Senate.

OLD BUSINESS
iPad Policy - Senators Castillo/Wheatley/Francis

Senator Koopmans inquired about the iPad use policy. Chair Morgan indicated that the policy was in draft form and will be presented to the full Senate when finalized.

The policy was not ready to be discussed; hence, Senators Wheatley, Francis and Castillo asked the Senate to table the policy presentation and discussion. Chair Morgan entertained a motion to table the iPad policy. The motion was moved by Senator Barry and seconded by Senator Francis. The motion carried unanimously and was approved. Senator Hall indicated that the staff of the Office of the President will attempt to locate the iPads previously distributed to former and existing Senators to redistribute accordingly. Senator Koopmans confirmed that relevant apps will work on all generations of the iPad, to include the first generation. The first generation, however, lacks a camera.

Lastly, Senator Barry was trained as the Senate’s website contributor. He will be responsible for posting relevant senate information, to include agenda and minutes.

NEXT MEETING

The next Senate meeting will take place on Friday, March 14, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Morgan entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Senator Barry moved the motion and it was seconded by Senator Edwards. The motion carried unanimously and was approved. Chair Morgan adjourned the meeting at 1:48pm.