Faculty Assembly Meeting 4 November 2011

**Report on Campus Safety Concerns and Recent Legislative Initiatives**. Mr. Brent Herron, Associate Vice President for Safety & Emergency Operations. Ms. Lesley Cates, Director of State Government Operations

**Cates**: Bill introduced to lower offense from class 1 felony to class 1 misdemeanor for gun on campus and if have a concealed carry permit can have in car or locked container.

* Talked with bill sponsor, who said people who have gun permits are safe
* Senate agreed could not move forward with this bill, so counter bill deleted the provision
* Final version of bill deleted portion about being able to carry guns on campus if have a concealed carry permit and deleted the reduced charge
* This section of the bill probably will not come back to life because legis. Is in short session and wants to wrap up business by June
* Bill was sponsored by Rep. Hilton – one of three education subcommittee members
* Other things in bill were castle doctrine (can shoot an intruder)
* Is house bill 650

**Herron**: See online powerpoint

* Campus safety – 16 campuses, > 220,000 students and 45,000 faculty/staff
* Annual meetings with security chiefs; 16 chiefs of police; 450 officers and 240 non-sworn
* All UNC officers certified thru NC Justice Academy, Basic Law Enforc. Training
* Have 5 accredited departments, others are going thru
* Primary mission to protect people and property but also evaluation and operations of campus security, sporting events, etc
* Clery act: federally regulations for campus safety: daily crime log; crime alerts to campus (timely alert, etc); annual report – with crime data for last 3 years etc
* In 2010, UNC police responded to 260,000 calls
* Counseling centers play a pivotal role
* Wcu’s counseling center is accredited
* Campuses have emergency management coordinator;
* Training: incident command system; emergency notification; relations with local emergency management coordinators – WCU has a designated emergency management coordinator (stormready, mitigation plan)
* Campuses have threat assessment teams
  + Must have a protocol for identifying and responding to students who pose a threat to themselves or others
  + Have a case worker to work with identified students
  + Policy for involuntary withdrawal of students who pose a threat to themselves or others (America disabilities – can no longer withdraw a student who is suicidal and poses no threat to others)
* Campuses must have programs to educate faculty etc to recognize signs and indicators of violence, suicide, mental illness and on FERPA, HIPAA, state laws
* Take aways: become aware of safety programs on campus; how to treat a medical emergency; have a plan

**Academics First Work Day**

Dr. Bruce Mallette, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs; Dr. Karrie Dixon, Assistant Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

BOG policy – every institution must revise or adopt plan for improving retention, and 4 and 6 yr graduation rates. Review policies and practices governing course withdrawal, course repeat, progression, suspension, and reinstatement; review financial aid policies to ensure students do not prolong stay

**Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and Good Academic Standing**: Overview of current policies and seeking a common approach – Mallette

* Regulatory requirements
  + As of 7/1/11, US dept. of ed has stepped up program reviews on SAP
  + To be eligible for federal financial aid, must have SAP and policy for monitoring SAP
  + Policy must be at least as strict as that for students not receiving federal financial aid
  + All policies – must be monitored at end of each term or annually AND must have 3 components: qualitative standard; quantitative standard; max attempted SCH
  + Qualitative standard: must specify GPA a student must have at each evaluation; if enrolled in a program of > 2 yrs must have a gpa of at least C or equivalent or must have an academic standing consistent with school’s graduation requirements; can have an escalating GPA rather than fixed; if student falls below C must be able to document the average is consistent with the academic standard required for graduation – note: feds are probably going to start asking why have a stairstep that starts so low
  + Quantitative standard: must specify the pace at which students make progress to ensure will graduate within the max timeframe; calculate pace by dividing total no of hrs successfully complete by total number has attempted
  + Max attempted units: must complete requirement within 150 % of minimum units required to complete the program; total includes hrs transferred; lots of proposals on the table to revamp this – e.g., allowing only 120 hrs of aid
  + Other rules: must explain how gpa and pace are affected by incompletes, withdrawals, repetitions, and transfer credits; transfer credits that count toward current program must count as both attempted and completed hrs; cannot exclude from progress courses in which a student remained past the add/drop period and earned a W nor routinely exclude certain hrs attempted such as those taken during a summer session (note: this means it is in the denominator, counts toward their count of courses attempted)
  + Financial aid warning: only schools that monitor every term may place students on warning; student can continue to receive aid for 1 semester to restore eligibility but school does not have to use a warning period; if don’t achieve sap after 1 semester student can appeal; get put on financial aid probation, if fails after probationary term can get aid only if successfully appeal and develop an academic plan
  + Good academic standing: may be different from sap, but should include GPA etc.
  + Sap and UNC NBG and CITI
    - Students get 9 units of NBG and then clock stops
    - Tuition increase requires a certain percentage to be set aside for need based aid

**Course repeats**: fed aid guidelines say if an institution allows course repeats, can only repeat a course previously passed with earned credits only ONE time; if student failed a course and did not receive credit, is NO limit on the number of repetitions that will count toward financial aid eligibility; repeated course along with original attempt must count in the 120 timeframe;

-does entering a major improve student retention

-under what conditions should repeats be allowed?

- can student repeat a course they have passed

- what are implications for grade replacement

- can affect SAP if a previously earned grad no long calculated into gpa

- do all repeats count in attempted hours

- should all attempts be noted on a transcript

**Drop/add policies**

* 5 days or one week; 2 weeks at UNC and NCSU;
* Withdrawal (not extenuating): - we are prior to ½ the term; up to 11th week at ECSU and how many times can you drop (e.g., ASU has 4 times in a career);
* Schools vary on whether a W appears on transcript and whether hours count
* Matters because of census date
* State funds by SCH; 12 hrs is FT 18-19 is free for student; losses between 7-14 % sch between census and end of term
* Concerns: how provide accsss while promoting success;

**Purposes of academic policy**

* Communicate objects and values
* Establish expectations
* Document procedures
* Provide consistent processes
* Establish rights and responsibilities
* Ensure compliance

**Challenges**

* Competing objectives
* Unanticipated consequences
* Consistency
* Determining when appropriate to change the rules
* Determine when to tweak

Red group – repeat and replace

* How many courses can be repeated and how many times per course

One suggestion: could repeat if fail class, but if pass must petition to repeat

* If grade replaced, should stay on transcript;
* Boils down to advising and faculty are having to oversee these
* Students should be allowed to recover, but not obliterate their record
* Could have structure that gets more restrictive over the 4 years
* Have a certain number of courses you can drop without penalty
* Needs to be a blanket minimum policy

SAP – what is ‘starfish’?

* Thought campus based and financial aid standard should be the same
* Some advocated for 2.0 standard throughout; other thought stairstep, but should be based on data on possibility of coming back
* Should look at reasons why students fall below sap when developing contract
* What should contract elements be and who should be involved In contract (at least advisor and/or faculty member); should consider outside factors (assign student to advisor and have bring assignments)
* Academic warning/early alert (starfish)
* GPA calculator
* Who reviews appeals to get into probation program?
* Policies need to be sensitive to part time students;

Drop/add withdrawal

* Drop dates are good, should extend over 1 course and 1 lab meeting; should be before census day
* Withdrawal/drop; withdrawals must be on transcript and count for attempted hours
* Courses could put students in to keep hours up

**Tom Ross**

* BOG has had no discussion about tuition yet.
* Need debate on how to finance education, but in meantime need to focus on how to maintain excellence
* Will peer group affect tuition raises? Campuses now know where they fall within their peers and GA will entertain proposal to bring up to top of lowest quartile over time;
* Question from floor: For schools with large financial aid populations, may not be feasible to raise tuition? Answ: are asking schools to consider what proportion of tuition increase will be set aside for financial aid.

**Charlie Perusse – tuition and fees**

* Budget update:
  + NC economy has grown 7 % over last 2 years; has grown 6 % for first quarter of this year
  + Have a structural budget problem; federal money went away that was supporting state projects
  + To close gap, an all cut approach was taken this last time – led to reductions; took about a 13 % net cut
  + Revenue collections about 150 mil ahead of schedule; unemployment has gone up just a little, but number of people employed going up as well; some job growth in professional area; people are working more hours
  + Big problems next year are Medicaid and federal money that supports public schools goes away
  + Enrollment going to be down this coming year over last
  + 4 yr plan with 6.5 tuition increase still in place; can exceed this year under guidelines – new cap for this year only is to catch up relative to new peers; can ask for increase up to the top of the lowest quartile; this headroom is about 33 % system wide; can spread the request over 3-5 yr period (25 % of increase must go to financial aid)
  + Best case for next year budget is stay the same or just a bit of growth