

COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT
Minutes

June 10, 2014

The Committee on Institutional Advancement met on Tuesday, June 10, 2014.

Committee and Board of Trustee members present: Chair Marilda Gandara, Shari Cantor, Rick Carbray and Andrea Dennis-LaVigne

Guests participating: John Biancamano, Kevin Edwards, Joanne Lombardo, Josh Newton, Suzanne O'Connor, Sherri Olson, Brian Otis, Lori Riiska and Rachel Rubin

Staff participating: Jen Cote

Ms. Gandara called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. Ms. Gandara welcomed the new Alumni Association Board President, Lori Riiska.

Acceptance of Minutes

The March 11, 2014 meeting minutes were presented and approved.

Foundation and Development Report

Mr. Newton reported that the Foundation Board met last week, and the meetings were great. The UConn Foundation will finish booking FY `14 gifts by mid-July and will be able to provide a more detailed fundraising report for FY `14 at the September IA committee meeting. Mr. Newton noted that they still have an ambitious goal of \$65 million, and are just short of reaching that goal. There is significant momentum going into the next fiscal year.

Mr. Newton shared background in regard to the Named Gift Guidelines being proposed. Mr. Otis noted at this point this document is a proposal only. The Foundation has noticed that in comparison to peer institutions, they are at a low threshold for named gift opportunities. University of Florida recently increased their thresholds as did the University of Georgia.

It was determined that in order to make this modification to the Guidelines, a change in the University's bylaws was required. Article XV, Section F of the bylaws states:

“Naming of Facilities - The act of naming or renaming a University facility for a person, family or organization confers one of the University's highest and most conspicuous honors. The President is authorized to establish guidelines and procedures in accordance with this policy for naming University facilities. The naming of any facility must be approved by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the President.”

This proposal has not been vetted with the Deans, and there is expected pushback. Mr. Otis stated the Foundation will work with the Deans to create more generalized funds that multiple people can contribute to.

Ms. Dennis-LaVigne asked when the dates of this proposal will go into effect, and specifically if the proposal will affect the already created African American Alumni Council scholarship. Mr. Otis stated that the discussions have just begun, and no date has been mentioned. He included that the scholarships that have already been established will be grandfathered in, and will not be held to the proposed standards.

A concern was voiced about facilities being named in honor, with no monetary transaction. Ms. O'Connor will follow-up with written communication to Ms. Rubin to address this occurrence.

Other concerns were brought up regarding the vetting process, and if there will be sensitivity in regard to the donor. Ms. O'Connor and Mr. Otis confirmed that a donor is never promised a naming, they are made aware that it will be brought before the Board of Trustees for approval.

A suggestion was made to include the vetting process in the guidelines. Ms. Gandara requested the September 2, 2014 IA Committee meeting will be focused on this issue. The proposed vetting process may include background checks, etc. Prior to this appearing before the Board of Trustees, approval from the Foundation's Board of Directors would be required.

Ms. Gandara called for a motion for Executive Session at the end of the meeting, and the motion was approved.

Agreement between the University of Connecticut Law School Foundation and the University of Connecticut School of Law

The Agreement between the University of Connecticut Law School Foundation and the University of Connecticut School of Law is needed to comply with Section 4-37f(9) of the General Statutes, which requires a written agreement between the Foundation and the University.

The agreement between the University of Connecticut Law School Foundation and the University of Connecticut School of Law was reviewed, and unanimously approved by the Committee.

Agreement between the University of Connecticut Foundation and the University of Connecticut

Ms. Rubin shared that the Master Agreement would replace the Operating agreement, from 1994 and the Statement of Work (SOW) would replace the annual MOU's. The SOW is proposed for one year, but the Master Agreement will provide for SOW's of up to five years. Ms. Rubin referenced section 6 of the Master Agreement, which references the SOW on these matters. She shared that this will provide the flexibility needed in the event there is desire in the future to change the funding model, without having to revise the new Master next year.

Ms. O'Connor shared that the UConn Foundation is its own independent 501(c) and by state law they are accurately reflected the new agreement. The new agreement required some clean-up due to HIPPA and FERPA laws.

The Committee unanimously approved the Agreement as presented.

Ms. Gandara apologized for the delay in review MOU's for the Committee to review, this will aim for March timeline next year. A special phone call will be scheduled in the near future for the IA Committee to review and approve the UConn Alumni Association MOU.

Legislative Update

- The Storrs & UConn Health FY15 state funding levels were maintained at the levels approved last session in the FY14 & FY15 biennial budget.
- Legislation of interest that passed impacting the University included the awareness and training for prevention of sexual assaults on college campuses and allowing the UConn Health Fire Department to provide emergency medical services transport to patients on the Farmington campus.
- No action was taken on the bill that was heard in the Government Administration and Elections Committee making the UConn Foundation subject to the Freedom of Information Act.
- Looking ahead to the next legislative session, statewide elections will be held this November. There are 23 current members of the General Assembly are not seeking reelection. Included in those not returning is Senate President Pro Tempore Don Williams (Storrs' Senator) who has been a significant champion of issues regarding economic development, higher education and UConn. Senator Williams championed the Tech Park legislation that passed a few years ago.
- Board of Trustees Chairman Larry McHugh and Thomas Kruger, Vice-Chair, Financial affairs committee, will make a presentation to the Higher Education and Employment Advancement and Appropriations Committees on June 23, 2014 on the FY14 budget (as required by SA 13-17).

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

A motion was made to move into Executive Session to discuss preliminary drafts and notes that the University has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure. The motion was unanimously approved.

Executive session adjourned at 3:30 pm.