

Senate Enrollment Committee
Minutes
Sept. 18, 2014, 2-3:30 p.m.

Members Present: Dianne Beer, Chris Clark, Michael Ego, Veronica Makowsky, Deborah McDonald, Brian Rockwood, Zeki Simsek, Susana Ulloa, Maureen Croteau, chair

Guest: Wayne Locust, vice president, Enrollment Planning and Management

1. Susana Ulloa volunteered to serve as our delegate to the Diversity Committee.
2. Dianne Beer volunteered to represent our committee on Growth and Development.
3. Wayne Locust presented the results of the fall 2014 recruitment and enrollment season:
 - 32,000 students applied for admission. We accepted 50 percent of those (down from 54 percent last year).
 - The fall target at Storrs was 3,550 freshmen. Actual enrollment was 3,588. (Down from 3755 in fall 2013)
 - The target for transfer students at Storrs was 800. Actual enrollment was 802. (Up from 786 in fall 2013)
 - The target for regional campus freshmen was 1,400. Actual enrollment was 1,384. (Up substantially from 1104 in fall 2013)
 - The target for regional campus transfer students was 275. Actual enrollment was 226. (Down from 255 last year.) He said that the 275 goal was unrealistically high and that he will seek a lower goal for next year.
 - The target for all new students was 6,025. Actual enrollment was 6,000. (Up from 5,900 in Fall 2013)
 - The mean SAT score was 1234, an increase of 1 point from fall 2013. SAT scores at the regional campuses rose by 11 points.
 - This year's class set a record to class rank: 50 percent of admitted students were in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class.
 - 80 STEM Scholars were admitted, which was the goal.
 - Percentage of in-state students dropped from 67.8 to 61 percent.
 - Out-of-state students increased from 28.4 percent to 32.2 percent.
 - International students increased from 3.8 percent to 6.8 percent.
 - Percentage of minority students (domestic only) rose from 26.9 to 33.43 percent

He said that they were trying for about 40 percent out-of-state and international students in this class and achieved 39 percent. The increase provides more tuition money and reflects the fact that we see ourselves as a national and international university.

About 45 international students were accepted to regional campuses, with most of them going to Stamford and fewer than 10 going to Avery Point. The Stamford students chose to find housing on their own, although assistance was offered. The Avery Point students were housed at Mitchell College in New London.

Whether international students are accepted to regional campuses in the future depends on how successful the program proves to be.

Locust attributed the increase in the percentage of minority students to shifting demographics, with Latinos and Hispanics constituting a significantly larger percentage of the population. Even more encouraging than the admission increase, he said, is the fact that students of color graduate at nearly the same rate as all students – 82 percent in six years, versus 83 percent in six years.

Our students are also economically diverse, he said. Twenty-six percent of our students are eligible for Pell Grants (for low income families), ranking us 17th among public flagship universities. He would like to see that ranking increase.

Next Generation Connecticut calls for growth at all the campuses over 10 years, although the legislature appropriates money annually. That requires ongoing monitoring.

He said that increasing the diversity of faculty and staff is an important factor in retaining minority students once they are admitted.

4. The committee discussed topics that we would like to consider this year. They included:

- continuing to follow New Generation Connecticut projects and the university master plan, perhaps with an update from Laura Cruickshank in the spring;
- retention rates from sophomore to junior and junior to senior years;
- the effect that transferring from regional campuses has on retention
- what effect the increased travel in the AAC has on student athletes;
- what we can learn from CPIA that could help us retain students who aren't athletes;
- what percentage of freshmen declare a major when they enter the university;
- with the advance in STEM programs, what is the university doing to increase research experiences for undergraduates;
- the new First Start Academy program directed by CAP, which aims to prepare foster students for college and assist them when they come to UConn. (Only 3 percent of children in foster care nationwide graduate from college.)
 - reach out to regional campuses to discuss enrollment and retention issues
 - examine high school outreach programs designed to increase access to UConn for first-generation college students
 - monitor progress on meeting short- and long-term needs of growing student enrollment.

Submitted by Maureen Croteau, chair