President’s Report

Faculty Senate

September 17, 2012

* Open meetings—we earlier sent a notice to campus about a series of open meetings on several issues—Complete College Georgia, Budget, Promotion and Tenure policy discussions, continued, and SACS—both compliance and QEP discussions. Please attend if you can, and please ask you colleagues to attend if possible. These function as an opportunity to reduce possible misunderstandings, as well as to provide us with some indication of places where additional communication would be in order.
* One portion of the budget discussion will include our intention to shift understanding of certain parts of the budget from “end of the year” to “one time expenditures.” With the planning and budget advisory committee, we will develop processes for identifying earlier in the academic year (usually first semester) certain onetime expenditures (consider a roof or class room furniture) whose costs may vary from year to year, and which should not have a permanent budget line, even if the one time expenditure is important. The shift seeks to accomplish three goals—to expand the time divisions, colleges and departments can develop lists of projects where one time investments will bring value to our activities; to give longer time for review of such projects; to reinforce that these are important expenditures, and not simply an exercise in “getting rid of unspent dollars.” The completion of faculty hall and the likely renovation of library space are examples of one time expenditures as investments.
* The university is currently a key participant in the Clayton County Economic Development study (co-sponsored by the Clayton County Chamber of Commerce and the Clayton County Development Authority). Dr. Crafton serves on the steering committee, and I serve on the advisory committee. Please share any ideas you may have—we will also provide a briefing as the project moves forward during the remainder of this calendar year.
* Thanks for all you do.
* Questions