

**UAM ASSEMBLY MEETING**  
**April 29, 2003 3:15 P. M.**  
**Spencer Gallery**

**Call to Order & Approval of Minutes:**

Dr. Becker declared a quorum and the meeting began at 3:26 p.m. A motion was made by Dr. Taylor to approve the minutes from the last meeting and the motion passed.

**Old Business:**

Dr. Becker requested that operating procedures from all committees be revised. Dr. Becker stressed the importance of this and moved that operating procedures be revised next year. A second was made by Mr. Ruegger and the motion passed.

**New Business:**

-Election of Assembly Officers 2003-2004

Dr. Becker announced that there was only one candidate for chair of the Assembly and opened the floor for nominations. Dr. Trana nominated Professor Donald Holley and Dr. Huston seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, nominations for chair closed. Dr. Becker opened the floor for nominations for the other offices and there were no nominations from the floor. Ballots were distributed to Assembly members for voting.

-Fringe Benefits

Richard Wallace spoke on fringe benefits in the absence of James White. Mr. Wallace outlined some changes:

An employee-assistance program for employees seeking counseling/help in various areas has been proposed. The cost would be \$21 per year per employee and would be picked up by the university.

There has been an increase in health insurance costs. This is the first increase since January 2000. Dental insurance and prescriptions drug co-payments increased in January 2003.

**Administrative Reports:**

**Dr. Mark Davis, Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration**

Dr. Davis reported that they are busy preparing budgets. He talked about the effect that the merger with Crossett and McGehee technical schools would have on the administrative process. Dr. Davis reported that progress with Harris Hall is slow but still planned to be completed by May.

### **Dr. Dennis Travis, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs**

Dr. Travis had four key points to outline in his report:

May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m. is UAM graduation. There are approximately 500 graduates invited to participate in the ceremony.

NCA reports are being distributed via e-mail. There are some key points that Dr. Travis would like to focus on: 1) assessment, 2) distance education, 3) colleges of technology, and 4) community outreach.

May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> are the dates for two informational meetings in Crossett and McGehee concerning the recent merger.

AASCU recently accepted UAM into the "American Democracy Program." Dr. Stephen Duffy will co-chair this committee.

Dr. Travis circulated a memo to Assembly members regarding recent developments with a former UAM graduate who falsified a national test score. Dr. Travis noted that revisions should be made to the Academic Code Violations Policy in insure that a matter of this nature be avoided. The current policy addresses students that cheat in a single course, but does not address a situation that involves forgery of scores on a nationally standardized test. Dr. Travis asked Curriculum and Standards to review his recommendations. It was noted that a ten day circulation was required before the C & S committee could act on any issue. Dr. Becker advised that the Assembly was not prepared to make an immediate decision in this case and that the discussion be tabled until C & S had time to properly review the recommendation.

### **Dr. Fred Taylor, Chancellor**

Dr. Taylor reported that the legislative session ended without giving higher education any money. A special session of the legislature will begin Monday, May 5. At this time, they will address state budgets. Representative Johnnie Bolin is working closely with the governor on recommendations. Dr. Taylor emphasized that the dire state of higher education is nation-wide. Higher education has lost \$1.2 million in the past two years.

### **Committee Reports:**

## **Academic Appeals**

Academic Appeals has not met since the last Assembly meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for May 28 and 29.

## **Athletic**

No report.

## **Curriculum & Standards**

Dr. Clayton reported that Curriculum and Standards was busy revising the current operating procedures.

## **Faculty Equity and Grievance**

No report.

## **Faculty Research**

Dr. McConnell reported that the Faculty Research Committee has not met but encourages faculty to seek outside funding for their research agendas.

## **Library**

No report.

## **Student Affairs**

The Student Affairs Committee met, revised and submitted their operating procedures.

## **Teacher Education**

Teacher Education met once to discuss the situation that Dr. Travis reported. They fully supported the rescission of the degree and the consequences that incurred.

## **SGA Report**

Angela Witt reported for the SGA. Ms. Witt outlined the various contributions of the SGA during the 2002-2003 academic year. Ms. Witt also announced the SGA officers for the 2003-2004 academic year.

## **Announcement of new Assembly officers**

Before announcing the new Assembly officers, Dr. Becker thanked the current Assembly officers. Assembly officers for 2003-2004 are as follows:

**Chair–Dr. Linda Webster**

**Vice-Chair–Dr. Stephen Trana**

**Secretary–Dr. Carole Efird**

**Parliamentarian–Dr. Richard Clubb**

## **Items from the floor**

None

## **Announcements**

None

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Efird

Secretary, UAM Assembly