

Minute – Recruitment, Admissions, and Retention Committee
October 27, 2006

Attendees: M. Brennan, D. Leake, A. Olson, D. Marchand, N. Shonoiki, S. Egerstrom, D. Trechter, A. Tuchtenhagen

1. Review/Approve Minutes from October 13, 2006
2. Comments/Observations about President Reilly's visit and the Growth Agenda?

President Reilly complimented this committee for the resolution we drafted in support of the growth agenda. He stressed the importance of higher ed in the emerging knowledge economy, the drop in state support for the UW, and the need to provide additional state support to enable us to grow the university. D. Marchand asked if it were appropriate to involve staff from local legislators in our planning process to try and get them on board in terms of support for the growth agenda. A. Tuchtenhagen said this was good idea but might be challenging given that their office people tend to be in Madison. Currently, there seems to be little legislative support for the UW, little interest in increasing taxes and little interest in raising tuition, so efforts to mobilize the public and writing legislators is very important. A Tuchtenhagen noted that there is legislative concern about reciprocity and the sense that the UW hasn't done much for the state. President Reilly indicated that more resources were needed if the growth agenda is to be initiated. A. Tuchtenhagen noted that the business community does seem to be supportive of the UW, it is more the rank and file voter that may be less enthusiastic

3. Comments/Observations about reading assignments
 - "Growth Opportunities"

Extending hours – many traditional students and faculty don't like classes outside of the "normal" hours. But, since we are at capacity, we may need to extend hours to serve students. A. Olson said she actually likes night classes as it frees up her schedule during the day and breaks up the week a bit better. D. Marchand observes that evening classes may have a more relaxed atmosphere that students appreciate. Early mornings are probably less popular than evening ones. A. Tuchtenhagen suggests considering 7:00 a.m. classes, again, to address classroom availability issues. D. Marchand asked if we could do some sort of analysis of student preferences for different class hours? A. Tuchtenhagen indicated that we will increasingly be managing the release of seats during registration and listing courses at out of normal ours as the low-numbered sections. A. Tuchtenhagen wondered about MW or TTh 5-7 class slot, would this work as a two-time a week class rather than the 3-hour, one night a week class. M. Brennan said evening classes are a good thing, especially for athletes.

Larger capacity classrooms – we only have about 3 classrooms that hold more than 80. However, with larger classrooms, we lose the personal connection. But we are so near capacity we may have few other choices.

Summer school – A. Olson noted that upper division students, many of whom have leases that run 12 months. This means that a May term similar to J-Term could be popular. Summer school and J-Term increase revenue but not enrollment. Is there a credit threshold for students during J or Summer school? Need to ask Sandy O about this. A. Tuchtenhagen said that they could take something like 6-credits during summer.

Teaching positions associated with growth – D. Trechter expressed concern that if additional courses are offered that we need faculty who meet our standards to teach these courses. Teaching these only with adjuncts could have the impact of degrading our “brand”. A. Tuchtenhagen suggests that if we are going to use adjuncts we ought to start advertising earlier. A. Tuchtenhagen asked if faculty were interested in teaching outside normal times? Response varied but most indicated willingness but that it depends on the personal-family circumstances. D. Leake notes that the 3-5 time slot is also not very popular and conflicts with athletics.

M Brennen asked about the demand for classes by non-trad students. A. Tuchtenhagen notes that the east metro should be our market and no one is currently serving this at the BA/BS level. The Hudson study indicated that there is some demand for this but that their actions may not match what they said they wanted. A. Tuchtenhagen suggests that we need to do a better job of getting our name recognition up.