

Provost Report to the Faculty Senate: Thursday, February 11, 2010

One-Time Purchases: I have asked the deans to work with their respective leadership teams and faculty to prepare a prioritized list of needs that have a 'return-on-investment' for teaching and learning. These lists will then be prioritized by the deans and I at the Academic Affairs level. All items must be received by mid-June to be eligible.

Long-term Resources Planning: I have asked the deans to work with their respective leadership teams and faculty to begin strategizing 5 to 7 years out for an eventual recovery. The goal is to be fully prepared for that recovery with a thoughtful, purposeful, and intentional rollout that would most benefit the institution and posture us for future progress.

Provost Search: Dr. Steve Owen and I are making contacts with Virginia institutions that are using or have recently used any of the four search firms under active contract. Upon determination of satisfaction, we will be recommending one of those four to President Kyle. RU will be permitted to contract with that firm without going through the bid process using VASCUUP provisions that permit any institution to piggy-back on an existing contract. We are concurrently working on the structure of the internal search committee and expect to present that to President Kyle sometime next week.

2010 Summer Research Grants: A request for applications for 2010 Summer Research Grants will be distributed by the beginning of next week.

Budget: There is no firm information yet from Richmond on the budget. Generally, we begin to hear details some time after the 'crossover' has taken place.

Board of Visitors Meeting: I presented the now determined schedule for the implementation of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (Fall 2010) and the Doctor of Physical Therapy (Fall 2011). In addition to also presenting highlights of accomplishments in Academic Affairs for the past quarter, I presented a detailed overview of the academic promotion and tenure processes for faculty-members. At the retreat of the BOV last October, members had stated that they wished to learn more about the process of awarding tenure to faculty at RU and about the promotion process. As part of my presentation, I distributed a copy of the American Association of University Professors' "AAUP Policy Documents and Reports" (the "Red Book") to each member of the Board. I amended that with excerpts of the RU Faculty Handbook sections describing all classifications of personnel, promotion and tenure policies and procedures, evaluation, appeals, and grievances. Dr. Owen and I subsequently answered questions and participated in a very positive, thoughtful discussion.