President’s Report

Faculty Senate

January 28, 2013

* **Mission statement Communication with the Board of Regents**—Some time ago, this body accepted the mission, vision and goal statements of the current strategic plan (see handout) the handout also includes the mission statement that is currently in place with the University System. While university actions for the last two years has reflected the new mission statement, formal acceptance of the change by the Board of Regents is required as a part of our reaffirmation process for SACS—outlined by Principle 2.4

**“**The institution has a clearly defined, comprehensive, and published mission

statement that is specific to the institution and appropriate for higher

education. The mission addresses teaching and learning and, where

applicable, research and public service. (Institutional Mission)” Our own institutional SACS leaders, Dr. Vaughan and Dr. Lane, wisely suggest that the institution will be best prepared to respond to SACS questions if we combine Mission, Vision, and overarching goals into a single mission statement. While such an action reflects a largely editorial and not substantive change in Senate action, I wanted to inform this body of that action.

* **On-going Campus discussions on On-Line Learning** Within the past week, Georgia State University and the University of Wisconsin announced strategies to utilize MOOC content as the foundation for assessment of course credit opportunities at those institutions. As mentioned in discussion on our campus, the foundation for that activity would be the review of course content and the design of tests to assess student learning by campus faculty. I express here my thanks to Ms. Janet Winkler (continuing Education) Dr. Crafton and Jim Flowers for supporting a visit by Dr. Nelson Baker of Georgia Tech on the topic of MOOCS. There appears to be emerging some important discussion under the direction of academic affairs that constitutes the framework for the “innovative instructional strategies” I mentioned at the last meeting. It is also the case that the Technology planning committee is scheduled to have its first meeting this week, offering us another chance to make strategies for using technology to foster learning across campus more accessible to the campus community.
* **Update of other campus conversations** I have no updates for this senate meeting, but anticipate material on inclusion, diversity, and community and campus engagement at one or more of upcoming senate meetings. I will continue to limit discussions on specific personnel actions taken by the university, only to note that actions have been taken consistent with investigations by HR both at this institution and with the assistance of the university system.
* **Legislative Session** The general assembly has begun its 40 day session (40 days defined by legislative and not calendar days). While the governor did not include the CSU science building project as a part of his recommendations for general issue bonds, we are in discussion with members of the general assembly to determine ways to have the project potentially added. The general assembly will likely take up issues such as guns on campuses, among other matters potentially affecting CSU. It is not apparent what the outcome of those discussions will be at this time.
* **Thanks** Thank you for your willingness to serve this body, as well as for your success in bringing the changes in the faculty handbook to a vote.
* **Questions?**