

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM: 5.A

DATE: July 26, 2010

SUBJECT: EUC – Next Steps

At our last meeting there was a spirited discussion about the future of the Electronic University Consortium and some of the issues raised by the members were voiced during the subsequent COPS meeting. The Executive Director did listen to these comments before stating that he is committed to the continuation of EUC.

He noted specifically that EUC will continue to serve as the reviewing entity for programs the campuses are moving to online delivery. Quality assurance review strategies developed by the system allow campuses to deliver programs on-line through EUC without any additional review by the Higher Learning Commission. In addition to this specific assignment, EUC is expected to promote intra-system planning, coordination, and cooperation.

A budget for EUC is being prepared. This will be shared with the EUC Committee and AAC. EUC funds will continue to cover D2L costs. In addition, this budget will support a management position to support EUC and D2L (0.25 FTE) and 0.5 FTE administrative support staff to manage the web site and most of the day-to-day activities of the consortium. Finally, some funds will be used to support the quality assurance review processes including funds for training/development.

Rather than searching to fill the part-time EUC and D2L director/coordinator position, the preferred solution is to identify an individual on one of the campuses who would be qualified and willing to assume this leadership role as part of her/his assignment. The salary dollars identified in the budget will be used to buy out a portion of the faculty/staff member's contract and, if the individual is on a nine-month contract, to provide a summer stipend. While discussions about this strategy have been held with some campuses, all members of the Council should identify individuals with administrative experience and with interest in on-line offerings.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Discussion and Approval.