

Minutes
Academic Affairs Committee
Board of Trustees
March 4, 2008

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met in Room A, 18th Floor Patterson Office Tower at 10:45 a.m. on March 4, 2008. Myra Tobin, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, called the meeting to order. The following members were in attendance: Penny Brown, Sandy Patterson, Nick Phelps and Ernie Yanarella.

Ms. Tobin distributed the minutes of the January 22, 2008 meeting and asked for any corrections or additions. There being no changes, a motion was made by Sandy Patterson to accept the minutes as distributed and seconded by Penny Brown. The motion was unanimously approved.

AACR 1: Candidates for Degrees Bluegrass Community and Technical College – Resolution requesting authorization for the President to confer degrees upon each individual identified on the attached list, upon certification by the Kentucky Community and Technical College System Board and the University of Kentucky Registrar that the requirements for those degrees have been satisfactorily completed. A motion was made by Ernie Yanarella to approve the recommendation and seconded by Nick Phelps. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Tobin introduced Dr. Jay Perman, Dean of the College of Medicine. Dr. Perman thanked the Academic Affairs Committee for giving him an opportunity to talk about something he thinks is very important—diversity. According to data published in recent journals, physicians treat patients differently depending upon their race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. The College of Medicine believes that its educational, research and clinical missions are enriched by a community of people of diverse backgrounds and cultures and is committed to fostering an environment in which a diverse community of students, faculty, and staff flourish. To conquer health care disparities, the number of minorities in the medical profession needs to be enriched.

Dr. Perman recently appointed a Diversity Advisory Committee. The Committee seeks to: Support and promote cultural sensitivity and inclusion through education of all constituencies of the College community; Provide and monitor data on student, faculty and staff diversity and related issues by data acquisition, including the use of periodic surveys, and analysis; Assist and facilitate search committees in recruiting faculty and staff from underrepresented groups; Assist efforts of the Office of Admissions in attracting students who contribute to the College's commitment to diversity, generate and assist the dean with the development of pipeline initiatives to nurture an interest in medicine and medicine-related science; Assist the Dean in ascertaining basis for departure of faculty, students and staff who leave the College unexpectedly and work to reducing such occurrences; Foster the visibility of the College's deep and abiding commitment to diversity to the wider community through community engagement.

The College is creating pipeline opportunities for minority students interested in careers in medicine. A recent agreement has been signed with Georgetown College that will identify potential medical students as early as sixth grade. The College has also recently hired a recruiter that will focus on certain high schools and encourage students to come to UK.

Ms. Tobin thanked Dean Perman for attending. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Myra Tobin, Chair
Academic Affairs Committee