Human Resources and University Relations Committee Meeting Summary
June 18, 2015
5:00 p.m., Boone Center, Conference Room

Committee Members present: Kelly Holland, Sheila Brothers, Mark Bryant, Cammie Grant, Jake Ingram, John Wilson

Other Board Members present: Keith Gannon

Kelly Holland, serving as committee chair in the absence of Chair Terry Mobley, called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

A motion was made by committee member John Wilson to approve the minutes from the June 10, 2014 committee meeting. Motion was seconded by committee member Sheila Brothers. Motion carried, minutes approved.

Kelly Holland welcomed and introduced guest, Jann Burks, in-coming Staff Senate Chair, who gave a brief overview of the Staff Senate mission, history, structure and issues in which the Staff Senate pursues for staff improvement such as salaries, proper training for supervisors, policies regarding harassment and bullying, institutional equity, and a joint staff-faculty Ombud committee. Staff Senate programs include: UK Appreciation Day, Outstanding Staff Awards, and UK Remembers – Memorial. Approximately 16,000 staff and 3,000 faculty are represented by 175 staff senate seats as outlined in Governing Regulation V.

Comments following Ms. Burk’s presentation:
• It was mentioned that faculty supervising staff really should take supervisory update training.
• There is faculty support of a joint Ombud. It would be interesting to know what the lack of an Ombud might have cost the university.

Kelly Holland welcomed and introduced guests, Joey Payne, UK Chief Benefits Officer, and Executive Director, Know Your Rx Coalition and Lucy Wells, UK Prescription Benefit Manager, and Know Your Rx Clinical Director.

Mr. Payne and Ms. Wells informed the committee about the Know Your Rx Coalition that began in July 2011 with three public entities, University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University and University of Louisville. Know Your Rx Coalition offers member institutions purchasing power, financial savings, effective clinical management of pharmacy benefit for member groups and resources to help further manage Rx spending. A free counseling service via live pharmacists called Pharm-Assist can help identify lower cost prescription alternatives, contact physicians on members’ behalf with advocacy for clients and members, and offer educational resources for members. By August 2015 over 113,000 lives will be covered by the Know Your Rx Coalition with a net plan cost savings of $41.9 million.
Questions and comments regarding the Know Your Rx Coalition presentation included the following:

Q: “Are there other Coalitions like this in the country? Are we the model?”
A: “The Pharm-Assist makes us different—yes, there are other coalitions for group purchasing power. They do not have the day-to-day resource to assist clients.

Q: “Do you access coupons?”
A: “We do—co-pay cards, trial offers, etc.”

Comment – “This is a marvelous client service, very appreciative of the customer service and personal service.”

Q: “Do you engage Pharmacy and Med students in the coalition?”
A. “We have a fellow starting with us now, this is the first joint endeavor in the program.”

Q: “I commend you on this program. I can see this getting bigger and bigger—how do you decide who not to involve in the coalition?”
A: “No private industries, currently, all clients in Kentucky—but those companies do have employees in 48 states.

Q. “This coalition started as a service, but it can be viewed as a business, how do you keep it in service status?”
A. “The coalition is totally transparent – UK does not make money off of fees—money is generated from savings to the University. If this became “for-profit” could dampen the enthusiasm for the coalition.”

At the conclusion of the Know Your Rx Coalition presentation, Ms. Holland thanked all guest speakers for sharing information with the committee. She called for other committee business.

Motion was made by committee member Jake Ingram to adjourn and seconded by committee member Mark Bryant.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55p.m.