This group (Cmte) was formalized by VP Morton to continue discussions of policy began in the CCCFSC while I was Chair of the CCCFSC in Spring 2010. The intent was to collect and discuss possible new policies and policy changes from faculty and administration, and to give input into the conversion of the former CCCMs into the current structure of the CC system. (CCCMs became obsolete upon dismantling of the CC System by Pres Dobelle in 2003, and are now only used as a reference in the development of policies for the reconstituted CC system). Members consist of former Faculty Senate Chairs and representatives from VP Morton’s office. Cheryl Chappell-Long, Director of Academic Planning, Assessment and Policy Analysis takes notes of the discussion. The Cmte meets once or twice per semester.

The last meeting was an exception for two reasons; 1) neither VP Morton, nor AVP Peter Quigley attended, and 2) two proposals were brought to the cmte that were never previously discussed and these were made the priority for discussion: placing credentials onto student transcripts (1) and charging an upfront fee for such credentials (2). These proposals were then sent to the CCCFSC to be distributed to the individual senates for formal discussion.

1. Automatic placement of degrees/certificates on student transcripts. This policy was presented to the Cmte by administration at the last meeting. It was pushed into a priority with an effective date of Fall 2011. Administration has made some changes to make it more palatable to faculty, but details have not been worked out. This cheese is still immature! This will obviously increase the number of degrees awarded by the system and make us all look good. However, ramifications to students on scholarships and visas have not been significantly addressed. How will affected students know how to exercise the right NOT to have credentials on their transcript? The bureaucracy is too intense to say that students can simply opt out.

2. Mandatory upfront graduation fee for all students entering CC system. As above, this policy is being pushed by administration to increase graduation rates. Details are not worked out and no data has been provided. This cheese is still immature!!!

3. UHCCP #5.203 Program credentials: degrees and certificates. The Cmte reviewed this policy and agreed to send it to the senates for discussion.

4. UHCCP #___ Academic Residency requirements for graduation. The Cmte reviewed this policy and agreed to send it to the senates for discussion. It requires that 12 credits must be earned at the college the degree comes from. At the most, this represents 25% of the students’ total credits. Some faculty in the Cmte thought this was not enough and this represents a compromise.