The meeting began at 3pm.

**Meeting Focus:** Support for terminal degrees

**Chairs/Directors Present:** Brunk, D. Chacon, Castaneda and Smith

**Chairs/Directors Invited but not Present:** None

**Dean’s Office Staff Present:** Jayasuriya and Estrada

1. **Announcement & Other Issues**
   - Crites reminded chairs to revise the wish-list for their respective departments and return it to the College. This will be shared with Asset Management & Development and the Advisory Board.
   - There will be another Chairs/Directors meeting soon to discuss revising major maps to incorporate UTEP Edge information.

2. **Discussion: Increasing number of terminal degrees that are being awarded**

   There was a discussion about factors that limit the number of terminal degrees (PhD & MFA) that can be awarded in the departments. All four departments discussed the low stipends that are paid and the requirement that students have to pay their tuition. There was also discussion about not having enough faculty to mentor more students, which was especially problematic in the Department of Creative Writing. A limiting factor for the Department of History is low numbers of qualified applicants to the program. There are enough faculty in History to mentor more PhD students but not enough applicants. If History can develop a strategic recruiting plan, the College may be able to have staff help with recruiting. Crites will explore ways to increase the money to support TAs in the College to help attract more students and/or increase the stipend to help compensate for the cost of tuition.

3. **Discussion: Texas Resident Tuition Fellowships**

   There was a discussion about the initiative from the Graduate School to provide financial assistance to students in terminal degree programs who are Texas residents. Chairs were not fully aware of this program so it did not work well this (first) year. Crites will work with Dean Ambler in the Graduate School to improve the procedures for next year.
4. **Discussion: Diana Natalicio Graduate Fellows Program in Liberal Arts**

Crites reviewed the strategy that the chairs of the PhD granting departments previously adopted. This strategy involved:

- Allowing each of the three PhD granting units to make $10,000 in offer(s) to one or more prospective PhD student to attract them to UTEP.

- Returning money to the general pool if a student declined the offer (because the endowment generated less than $30,000 each year).

Crites let chairs know that the amount available to fund students had increased over the last few years because of this strategy. Crites suggested that we re-invest some of the accumulated funds it to increase the size of the corpus. If this was done, it would enable the endowment to generate more than $30,000 each year. This will allow each unit to award $10,000 a year; thus, each unit could select another candidate if an individual declines the offer and does not come to UTEP. There was a discussion about this idea and the chairs unanimously supported the idea of seeking approval for this idea with Dr. Natalicio. Crites agreed to do this.