

MINUTES
Provost's Council
December 16, 2008

The Provost's Council met at 8 a.m. on December 16, 2008 in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

Members: Jeff Briggs, Tim Crowley, Cindy Elliott, Paul Faber, Dennis King, Micol Maughan, Debbie Mercer, John Ross and Larry Gould

Member absent: Chris Crawford

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Strategy Items

a) When Access is Not Enough

Action: We continue to go back to traditional retention experiences and the Provost is less convinced these are what we should be doing. If you want to keep low income, transfer and minority students, you don't need a whole first-year experience to keep them in class. It may be just a one-time experience that will change their opinion on whether to keep the students in school to graduation. We need programs that specifically target a problem. This needs to be kept in mind when the Division of Student Affairs comes forward with their plan to implement a comprehensive first-year experience as the solution to retention. The deans were asked to read the document and share with the chairs.

b) Summer Session Budget

Action: The Council discussed the documents created by Bev Gross which shows what was spent for Summer 2008 separated by on-campus and off-campus. Each dean was asked to review their college and see if there are ways they can improve efficiencies. We definitely can't have faculty teaching two sections of the same course when there is low enrollment in both of them. The Provost wants the deans to use the savings to move the courses to off-campus. He would like to give back \$150,000 to the president as savings from the total amount. The deans will have \$862,000 available salary dollars with a goal of producing 15,000 SCH.

2. Decision Items

a) Revised Spoken English Competency Report

Action: The form was approved with minor changes. It will be sent to the Equal Opportunity office for distribution in the search packets.

b) Minimum Salary for Full-Time Staff

Action: President Hammond has agreed the minimum salary for full-time staff will be \$2000 to teach a virtual college or on-campus course.

3. Discussion/Deliberation Items

a) National Survey of Student Engagement Executive Snapshot 2008

Action: Tabled

b) Does it Matter Where You Go to College?

Action: Tabled

c) Transfer Students and Engagement

Action: Tabled

d) Are 4-Day Workweeks the Future?

Action: More and more institutions are going to a four-day work week. The Provost is asking the deans to share this with chairs and provide feedback. The Council was asked to think about the implications to FHSU because a discussion will be coming in the future.

e) Four Ways to Support and Retain Your Online Adjuncts

Action: Tabled

f) Co-op Programs with Bible/Christian Colleges

Action: This is a summary of the schools that have NCA accreditation or some other type of accreditation. We may want to recruit students from these schools to campus.

Carl Miller from the Department of Philosophy is now the contact for these co-op programs.

g) Integrated Enrollment Management Group

Action: Dr. Mason is requesting the Council review the creation of this group in conjunction with Student Affairs. It would be a group that would talk about enrollment management. It will be put back on the agenda for further discussion.

h) Pulse Group

Action: The Provost, Vice President for Student Affairs, SGA, Admissions, graduate students should be represented when hosting a breakfast to talk with students about various issues. It was suggested having open sessions as well as this group. It will be put back on the agenda for further discussion.

i) Combat to College

Action: You can see some of the stuff that is going on in regards to military education. President Obama is pushing this because in 16 months, hopefully, there are going to be soldiers who want to take classes.

4. Informational Items

a) Why Some Students Prefer Virtual Schooling

Action: This document was included for the Council's review. It goes back to the discussion of virtual high school initiatives. Dr. Mercer is going to find the list for discussion at a future PC meeting.

b) ACRL Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

Action: This document was included for the Council's review. John did an excellent job of putting it together. It makes sense for the library and other academic units on campus. It is well written and describes aspects about the Library that may not be well-known by our faculty, staff and students. ACRL only gives one award regional and we might have a chance of winning it.

c) Two Friends and a Legacy: The Kansas Academy of Mathematics and Sciences

Action: This document was included for the Council's review. It's a really interesting story that pushed the KAMS to the Legislature.

d) Jobless Discount

Action: The Provost is advocating allowing unemployed persons an opportunity to sit in our classes for free if there are empty seats. The hope is they will want to pursue a degree at our University.

e) College Recruiting Booms in California

Action: This article reiterates what we have been talking about; recruiting students from other states to FHSU.

f) Universities See Double-Digit Increase in Enrollment, Study Finds

Action: Informational Item

g) Limited Retirement Health Care Bridge

Action: This policy is a bridge between phased retirement and no retirement. It is a way we can help move faculty to a new life. It may cost the university about \$7,000 by offering to pay their health insurance for two years to transition faculty to retirement. The President is amenable to this and asked the deans to keep it in mind.

New Business/ Announcements

1) The Provost distributed to the Council an article from Educational Pathways about students who have online learner skills.

- 2) It is a summary of the information on procedures to reduce workforce. The main thing to remember is it is based on seniority in classification for classified staff. Furloughs are more of a possibility than layoffs right now but nothing is certain until May of next year. Discussion continues on laying off of faculty is governed by Article ? of the MOA. All of this needs to be approved by the Secretary of Administration. However, if the Regents call an exigency, then everything is off the table and we have a whole another ball game.
- 3) The Provost has to let the President know by Friday which of the positions we need to keep and which ones can we get rid of at this time.
- 4) Is there a formula that can be used for efficiencies? Dr. Gould suggested using 50 percent as the number to show efficiency. Long-term savings for summer school can be used as efficiency. If you can generate additional SCH that will be permanent, then it can be counted as efficiency. Is it possible to fund some of the positions solely out of the Virtual College?
- 5) It is very important to get the email information to the Admissions Office by December 1. It is now beyond that date and we need to get this information to them before the holiday break.
- 6) America's Top Military-Friendly Colleges and Universities Top Schools FHSU is listed on page 17. We are in the mix and looks like we are making progress and keeping up the good work with the military.

The meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond
Dr. Tisa Mason
Mr. Larry Getty
Dr. Joey Linn
Ms. Casey Kelch
Provost's Council Secretaries