

# Minutes

Provost's Council  
January 10, 2008

The Provost's Council met on Thursday, January 10 at **9 a.m.** in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan 306.

Members present: Jeff Briggs, Chris Crawford, Tim Crowley, Cindy Elliott, Paul Faber, Dennis King, Debbie Mercer, John Ross, Steve Williams and Larry Gould

Guest: President Hammond

## A. Call to Order

Action: The meeting was called to order by the provost.

### **1. Strategy Items**

#### a) Strategic Initiative for Off-Campus Education

Discussion: The president discussed with the Council the strategic direction of our off-campus education. Right now, the University can set any enrollment goal for the Virtual College (VC) and achieve it if the resources are provided. However, the president is concerned about the negative impact on on-campus enrollment by offering so many VC courses. There are 600 students in Ellis County and another 600 students locally that would be taking on-campus classes if there were no VC courses offered. If we are going to increase enrollment in the VC, it should be over the next 3-4 years, not the next 10 years. There is a market right now for distance education courses. We are currently serving over 3200 Kansans through the VC. To grow and keep quality faculty and staff, we need to financially reward their efforts. Volume is only one measure of success. We have a difficult time now recruiting faculty to teach our core classes. If it is done strategically, the VC growth can subsidize the growth of our on-campus enrollment. The Council agreed with the president that we should aggressively increase our VC offerings but we must stabilize our on-campus enrollment.

Action: The president will not make a final decision without more input from the deans. He hopes to have a plan in place by next fall but it may not have all the answers or processes. He encouraged the deans to share this discussion with the faculty.

## B. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond  
Dr. Herb Songer  
Mr. Larry Getty  
Dr. Joey Linn  
Dr. Daniel Kulmala  
Ms. Chelsey Gillogly  
Ms. Casey Rackaway  
Provost's Council Secretaries