

Minutes

Provost's Council
June 3, 2008

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, June 3, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room (SH 306).

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

Guest: Patty Griffin

A. Call to Order

1. Strategy Item

Showcasing the Division of Academic Affairs for the Foundation

Action: Tabled

2. Decision Items

a) FHSU Proposed Semester Calendar

Action: The Council approved the calendar.

b) Administrative Calendar

Action: The Council approved without changes. It was suggested moving the sabbatical application dates back to coincide with the deans being notified by March 1 to allow for class schedule changes for fall, if needed. However after reviewing the MOA, there are deadlines attached to the Sabbatical Application. The Provost will talk to Todd about negotiating a change to the deadlines. It will not affect the calendar this year.

c) Promotion and Tenure Calendars

Action: Approved without changes.

d) Selection of the Edmund Shearer Faculty Advisor of the Year Recipient

Action: The recipient was selected by the Council. It was suggested to streamline the application process. Dr. Crawford agreed to talk with Patty Griffin and the Academic Advising Committee about this process.

e) Selection of the Faculty Member of the Year Recipient

Action: The recipient was selected by the Council.

3. Discussion/Deliberation Items

a) Retired Faculty and Faculty Emeritus Access to Library Resources

Action: There is a problem with granting retired faculty access to the resources because most vendors prefer access be given only to teaching faculty and students. John Ross will draft a statement to be included in the emeriti letter or maybe having two letters (one for continued service and other just for the status). Cindy Cline will send a draft letter to

John Ross and he will add the necessary statements of continued commitment and contribution to FHSU. The draft will be brought back to the Council for final approval.

b) Chronic Low Performance Policy

Action: The academic deans were asked to review their Chronic Low Performance Policies for all programs within the departments. The deadline for completion of this project will be December 5. Departments need to determine the criteria for “low performance” then define what is considered chronic low performance. Cindy Cline will create a list of the programs that will require a policy on file in the provost’s office.

c) Insidehighered.com Subscription

Action: The Provost will submit an action plan to purchase the membership as an institutional one. If the action plan is not funded, the deans agreed to come up with the total purchase price.

d) Converging Degree and Diploma Titles

Action: Tabled

e) Academic Advising Component of Program Review Report

Action: The Regents do not want a comprehensive report from each department but they do want it noted if there are departments that are having trouble. It was discussed on how to provide this information to the Regents. It was decided to keep a short summary to submit to the Regents with a link to our website with the detailed information. It was also suggested reviewing the survey to perhaps include different questions and add the two NSSE questions. There should be a breakdown of on campus and virtual college courses. The chairs should be receiving data for the institution, college, department and each faculty member. Patty was asked to prepare a plan of action and bring it back to the Council for review.

f) Quality Assurance in VC Course Development

Action: Tabled

g) VC Focus Group

Action: Tabled

h) Math ACT “low score” Notification

Action: Dr. Hammond’s current project is to create an academy with Shawn at SIAS where students will take an intensive study of English and may include a placement test at the beginning of the academy and one at the end. This is in the planning stage and not complete yet.

4. Information Items

a) University of Washington Rejects a Record Number of Applicants

Action: These are potential marketing opportunities for recruiting students to FHSU.

b) FIU May Cut Jobs, Degrees

Action: These are potential marketing opportunities for recruiting students to FHSU.

c) Courses Give Some a College Try

Action: This has to do with schools offering dual credit courses. You can see the growing numbers and the debate over whether students are getting a good education. There is a difference between dual credit and concurrent enrollment. The article goes on to say that some colleges are no longer accepting dual credit courses such as SUNY. The public push is to offer these courses but the academic side is not happy with this push.

d) Concurrent Enrollment

Action: The COCAO decided to not endorse it but the Legislature had already passed a resolution to include sophomores in concurrent enrollment.

e) We Need a New Model of Global Education

Action: If you read through this, we are on pace. There is a call, however, to do some other things with regard to this model. Not just for the sake of democracy but to create more educated citizens.

f) Poll: Online Degrees Earn Wider Acceptance in the Business World

Action: This is mostly for Cindy Elliott because it is the provost's expectation she use the article as background information for the Denver Office.

g) Accreditors Advise Colleges on Learning Outcomes

Action: This has gotten a lot of play. There is going to be intensified pressure to do a better job with student outcomes and to make changes to improve them. Accreditors are going to have to respond to learning outcomes or receive pressure from the Department of Education.

h) ESL Training/Awareness in Kansas Teacher Education

Action: Deb Mercer provide a copy of this document to the provost. He felt it was important for everyone to see the article. The demographics are changing because there are more citizens in the state who do not speak English. It is a challenge to be sure our teachers are prepared to handle these situations when they walk into the classroom. ESL will continue to be an important part of preparing our students to teach. The Provost asked the Council to review the recommendation by the Regents. Dr. Mercer commented on these recommendations. FHSU has taken "hits" for the large number of hours we require for our students to earn a degree.

B. New Business/Announcements

1) Program Review – The University will be reviewing all of the College of Business and Leadership for this year.

2) Graduate Grade Appeals Policy

Action: The Council was asked to review the policy. The draft will be placed on the agenda in July.

3) The Financial State of the State of Kansas

Action: There is a good chance this may not occur at the university if the President has the funding available to cover the cuts. However, if the cuts are too large, then Academic Affairs may need to make budget cuts. Each Council member was asked to consider where they would make a 10 percent budget cut.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

- c: Dr. Edward Hammond
- Dr. Herb Songer
- Mr. Larry Getty
- Dr. Joey Linn
- Dr. Kenneth Trantham
- Mr. Tyler Hughes
- Ms. Casey Rackaway
- Provost's Council Secretaries

7/8/2008