

MINUTES
Provost's Council
November 25, 2008

The Council met on November 25, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

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

A. Call to Order

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

1. Strategy Items

a) Credit by Examination/Documentation

Action: The enclosed document reflects the current policy. The Provost does not pay anyone on campus to develop an exam. However, the Provost is proposing that we pay a one-time fee to a faculty member to create the test for the international degrees. If, however, there is a very large number (800-1000) of exams that need to be graded, the Provost will agree to pay GTA's or a faculty member to grade them. It will be on a piece meal basis, not the normal practice. He will remain open to the idea about possible compensation for remedial instruction. The policy and procedures were discussed. The department chairs and deans who are involved were asked to set some triggers and thresholds which are included in the details of the procedures. We have to keep \$25 as the fee. There are several changes discussed to the procedures. The Provost will revise the document and send out to the Council members.

b) Budget Innovations/Strategies: Cost Containment, Cost Management, Cost Cutting and Revenue Generation

Action: The Provost passed out the latest directions which are different than what the President described at the last Provost's Council meeting. Dr. Gould is asking the Council to think strategically and innovatively about how to manage their budgets, not just cut student labor or positions. The cut will likely be seven percent or higher for next fiscal year. Is it the right way to go by cutting the on campus summer session and just offering Virtual College classes? It was agreed to cut on campus summer session except for a few programs. The President is going to allow rollover in OOE and student labor from this fiscal year to next year. What about summer salary research monies? The Council agreed to cut summer salary research monies. Dr. Crowley will notify the applicants of this decision. The deadline for submitting this information to the Provost is February 1, 2009.

2. Discussion/Deliberation Items

a) TigerTracks Update – Chris Crawford

Action: Faculty tools will be included in the updates. This is an opportunity for us to provide input to the Computing Center on the processes. Before we get too far down the road, we need to be sure the tools are being useful or helpful. We need feedback from our users on this project.

b) Faculty Paid for Same Course – Second Section

Action: There are some faculty who are violating the current Virtual College policy which states a faculty member is not allowed to teach two sections of the same class. There could be cost efficiency savings by correcting this practice.

c) Validation of Online Learners

Action: There is a new law where the University is required to validate online learners. It is another one of those laws that is hopefully going to be amended because it doesn't work now. We will keep an eye on it and Dennis will alert the Council if there is some movement on it.

d) Amended Policy for Spoken English Language Competency of Faculty and Graduate Teaching Assistants

Action: This is the new online TOEFL test which will be used instead of TSE or SPEAK. TSE and SPEAK will be phased out. It has not been norm-referenced and 22 or above is the number the students need to score to pass the test. The KBOR will try it for awhile but no definite testing score has been decided. The Provost's Office will be responsible for revising the document and distributing it to the appropriate parties.

e) Performance Agreement

Action: Informational item.

f) State University Fall 2008 Enrollment Data

Action: For review by the Council.

g) First-Time Freshman Admitted and/or Enrolled Below a 16 ACT Score

Action: The Provost prefers we not admit students with an ACT Score of 16 or below but the President has checked and other state universities are admitting these students and giving them remedial help. Joey Linn and Patty Griffin have come up with a proposal to help these students. We are still admitting them but providing them with remedial education.

h) KBOR's New Sustainability Policy

Action: The KBOR has approved a policy which may become one of the performance agreement components.

i) University Faculty Lounge Action Plan

Action: This is a funded action plan but may not see fruition. The plan is to use the State Room in the Memorial Union as the location.

j) Discipline Specific Required Computers

Action: These requirements come out of a discussion with Mike Barnett and John Ross. We are posting a letter on the website that will assist those students who have Gateway computers and need to repair their computers. There are about 10-20 students we are required to cover with this warranty. Maybe the University needs to go with discipline specific type of computers and back off the tablet requirement and just require a laptop. It may complicate things for the Computing Center but will be beneficial to the students to just require a laptop.

k) Community College Transfer Report

Action: SCOCAO has decided these reports will be generated from the KBOR office and will be done monthly. Five is the minima in a course that can be used to do FERPA.

l) Academic Certificates

Action: The Provost is going to write up the procedures to be distributed to the campus community.

m) AccessUS Opportunities

Action: For those of you are creative, we have a one million dollars allocated with \$700,000 left over and available for use.

n) Suspended Action Plans

Action: Provost Gould ranked the list by University, performance agreement and AQIP goals. If there are action plans on the list which should be ranked differently, the Council member should send an email to the Provost indicating which action plan and the rationale for the change.

o) Bookstore for a Virtual Learning Environment

We have been looking for better service for our Virtual College students. A visit to campus from EdMap has been scheduled to allow the university to listen to what they can offer us. The Barnes and Nobles contract has been extended until the end of the summer. EdMap is an online bookstore that is not interested in having an on-campus location.

3. Informational Items

a) Tilford Conference

Action: The decision has been made to move it around the Regents system. It will be two years at KU and then two years at KSU. A Tilford Group is one of the initiatives we want to develop with Student Affairs.

b) Performance Agreements for the Calendar Years 2009, 2010 and 2011

Action: The Provost asked the Council to look at the goals and KPI's and incorporate them in our initiatives on campus.

c) California Restricted Student Access

Action: The article describes another state that is having trouble with their budget. This is an opportunity for us to recruit students to the University.

d) KBOR Academic Affairs Reporting Schedule

Action: The Provost circled the deadlines that are pertinent to the Council.

e) Coors Beer: Marketing the Tagline

Action: The Provost shared this article with the Council about the concept of marketing.

B. Announcements/New Business

Action: COCAO and SCOCAO voted to do away with F2F meetings for the next year and half. There will only be one F2F each year to save money and be more efficient. The other monthly meetings will be conducted through video and/or teleconferences. This is likely to be suggested for COBO, COET and other Regents-level meetings.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond

Dr. Tisa Mason

Mr. Larry Getty

Dr. Joey Linn

Ms. Casey Kelch

Provost's Council Secretaries