

MINUTES
Provost's Council
April 14, 2009

The Provost's Council met on April 14, 2009, at 9 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

Members: Jon Armstrong, Jeff Briggs, Chris Crawford, Tim Crowley, Cindy Elliott, Paul Faber, Debbie Mercer, John Ross and Larry Gould

Guests: Lisa Karlin and Casey Kelch

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Provost. The agenda is continued from the previous March 24 meeting.

3. Discussion/Deliberation Items

b) Proposed EMG Timeline and Update on the New Website

Action: Lisa Karlin and Casey Kelch provided an overview of what the new website will look like and answered questions about it. One of the items discussed was the term, "online learners" versus "students." Jon Armstrong was asked to visit with Dennis King about this wording. The Provost was concerned about the location for the academic affairs experience. June 1 is the date to begin using the new brand and October 1 is the deadline when units will be asked to no longer use the old brand. It was suggested having a micro site for international students. There should be no departmental changes publicized until August 3. Ms. Karlin was going to check with the President about this date.

c) Fraternity/Sorority Fall 2008 Semester Report

Action: Tabled

d) Virtual College Instructor Offices

Action: Tabled

f) Royall and Company Admissions

Action: Tabled

g) Three Year Degrees

Action: Tabled

h) Writing Intensive or Writing across the Curriculum

Action: Tabled

i) Payment to Faculty for Credit by Exam

The Provost is trying to come up with a scale on the amount to pay faculty to grade the credit by exams for the international partners. There will be between 800 to 1,000

exams per semester. We have to be careful on what precedent we set. It will be important because of what will be used in the future. We still don't know what type of tests will be used. Credit by documentation will be using different tests, quizzes and the students' performance by semester to determine if they pass or fail. Credit by exam will be a faculty member creating questions to be uploaded to Blackboard and used for the local examination. Cindy Elliott would like to have a package deal. Tim Crowley proposes this be put into other incentives such as research grants, travel instead of salary dollars. It will be put back on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. The Council was asked to think about all the possibilities and be prepared to discuss it.

j) U.S. Professors of the Year Awards Program

Action: Tabled

4. *Informational Items*

a) Obama's Higher Education Goal

Action: This sums it all up on what we have been talking about in becoming a country that has the most educated citizens in the world. President Obama has set a goal for 2020 to have the world's highest proportion of college graduates.

b) Journalism's Rocky Ride: New York Times

Action: The article talks about how the NYT may or may not survive. One of the things that continues to be discussed is the concept that major newspapers will turn into the Huffington Post. The Huffington Post represents the new face of media in one form. It is an effort to raise awareness about journalism at the University because it is not at the level it should be. Harris Newspaper Group is still interested in doing something with our Journalism students.

c) Service Learning Reposed:

Action: President Obama is making resources available to put things out to the community in ways we did not have before. The Provost is rewriting the Provost's Service Learning Scholarship to work with the committee and the community. This will be available this summer and fall.

d) The Interactive University

Action: This article highlights the possibilities we have with the community classification to increase our interactivity with the state and the world.

e) Revamped G.I. Bill on Track

Action: Fort Hays State has opportunities to access G.I. bill monies.

f) Making your Institution Veteran-Friendly

Action: We need to take the ACE criteria and see how we look relative to other institutions and what we need to do differently.

g) Highlights of President Obama's Budget for Education and Research for the 2010 Fiscal Year

Action: There are a number of research possibilities available for the University.

h) SGF History

Action: Dr. Hammond passed this out at a previous Cabinet meeting. Right now, state colleges still receive 50 percent of their budget from the State's general fund.

i) Top Public Colleges and Universities-MO and Kansas

Action: The Council can see where FHSU rates in context to other state and community colleges in both states. It was noted there is gross misrepresentation of our tuition fees in the document. Dr. Gould will make President Hammond aware of this discrepancy.

j) Universities Profit by Taking the Lead in Knowledge-based Partnerships

Action: Informational item for the Council.

k) Web 2.0

Action: This article talks about potential uses of Web 2.0 on our website.

l) Ten Questions and Answers about the Cloud

Action: This is the next step in information technology.

B. Announcements/New Business

1) Proposed KBOR Policy Change

The University of Kansas is proposing changing the academic calendars to a minimum of 146 instructional days. The Council was asked for their input. No one considered it to be a problem to change the policy. The State Universities will not be required to only have 146 instructional days; the number can be more at the discretion of each University.

2) Program Review

A copy of the results from the Board of Academic Affairs Standing Committee to determine the status of program review at the Board level was included as a handout.

3) Blackboard Implementation Schedule

CTELT has decided to move to the Blackboard 9.0 version. A copy of the schedule for implementation of the new system was included in the agenda. Travis Taggart and Pawan Jain from CTELT are working with departments to transition to the newer version and they will be offering training sessions for faculty on the usage of the new version.

4) Need an update with the revenue growth strategy

The Provost is concerned about some departments not participating in the attempt to increase the maximum enrollments for all classes. If some departments are not willing to do this, there may be deeper cuts in OOE or loss of positions for those departments.

5) Lecturer and Senior Lecturer Policy

The Provost distributed the latest version of the policy to the Council. Eileen Roberts prepared a list of faculty who would be eligible to submit an application to become a

lecturer based on the policy. There are only three faculty eligible to apply using the 1998 date. Todd Powell is going to include it in the list of items to be negotiated with AAUP.

6) US News and World Report

The article indicates students will still be attracted to our distance education program and the quality issue is the bottom line. The Council was asked to share this with their department faculty.

7) NSF Grants

The Provost spoke with Dr. Heinrichs about the monies and he feels this is an excellent opportunity for undergraduate research resources.

8) Letter from Jerry Moran

The Provost distributed the letter from Dr. Hammond to Congressman Moran earmarking possible opportunities to use the additional monies (\$300,000) Senator Moran has available through the stimulus package. The University had a 24-hour turnaround to come up with possible projects associated with healthcare.

9) CAEL

Cindy Elliott and Dennis King are chairing a committee involved in prior learning outcomes. Jeff Burnett and Dan Kulmala from the university went to a conference last fall. If any faculty member wants to serve on the committee, they should contact Cindy Elliott. Dr. Gould has also purchased a prior learning progress booklet that he will buy for everyone on PC and the CAEL committee (Lou Caplan, Jeff Burnett and Dan Kulmala).

10) RT Prospect

Cindy Elliott will talk to the two departments – Leadership Studies and Teacher Education about this potential opportunity.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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