

MINUTES
Provost's Council
April 28, 2009

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, April 28, 2009 in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

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

Guests: President Hammond, Ken Trantham

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Strategy Items

a) Mid-Plains/FHSU MOU

Action: We now have an MOU with Mid-Plains Community College. Lori Maury will be our representative in Nebraska working with students in conjunction with the MOU. The Provost wanted the deans to take a look at the document so they know what commitments have been made for the academic departments to support this agreement. There may be only a few students out of this MOU but it gets our foot in the door in Nebraska.

b) Northcentral University Agreement

Action: Northcentral University in Prescott Valley, Arizona offers online doctoral degrees. Dennis King and Larry Gould visited the campus last week. Northcentral is accredited by the North Central Association/Higher Learning Commission. We are marketing the MBA to students who will then transfer/articulate to Northcentral University to complete their doctorate degree. An additional benefit is a 10 percent discount for students and a 20 percent discount for FHSU faculty to attend their University. Northcentral is also interested in our partnerships with China because they are accredited for only online courses. The academic deans were encouraged to notify faculty about this agreement and that it will be signed shortly.

2. Decision Items

a) Faculty Awards

Action: The Council selected the spring 2009 faculty awards for teaching, research and service.

b) Continuing Tenured Contract Language

Action: Tabled

3. Discussion/Deliberation Items

a) Collegiate Learning Assessment Presentation – Dan Kulmala

Action: Dr. Kulmala made a presentation on using CLA in the Classroom. CLA is all about engaging students in experience-based, task-centered activities. We have administered CLA at the institutional level for the past two years. One of the criticisms of CLA is that it cannot be broken down at the department level. If we create department/discipline performed tasks, they then could be included as assessment items. Dr. Kulmala would like to use it in freshman level general education classes. It can be a classroom activity in any discipline and can then quantify the attributes of the students. Two downsides of the project: it has an automated grading system (which we cannot do) and the huge amount of time on the part of the faculty member to create the performance task. The faculty member using it would have to receive reassigned time to create it. Dan Kulmala and Brad Will are resources for faculty to create assessment tests for our students. We need buy in from departments to see if they are interested in assessment before hosting a workshop on campus versus sending a couple of faculty to the training. Dr. Crawford will put together some names of people who may be interested and set up a meeting. Send the names of interested faculty to Dan Kulmala/Chris Crawford. Dan Kulmala and Brad Will are continuing to complete the performance task for submission to the CLA to allow the University access to the site. Drs. Kulmala and Crawford will come up with a timeline for the project.

b) Blackboard Use and Course Syllabi Site: Recommendation from Virtual College/CTELT

Action: Tabled

c) Fraternity/Sorority Fall 2008 Semester Report

Action: Tabled

d) Virtual College Instructor Offices

Action: Tabled

e) Royall and Company Admissions

Action: Tabled

f) Three Year Degrees

Action: Tabled

g) Writing Intensive/Writing Across the Curriculum

Action: Tabled

h) Payment to Faculty for Credit by Exam (continued discussion/bring feedback)

Action: Tabled

i) Library Hours

Action: The library will be open on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and ten hours on Monday-Thursday. The Virtual College will be open on Fridays from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and in the evenings from 6 - 10 p.m.

j) Furlough Policy

Action: Tabled

k) Foundational Framework for the Division of Student Affairs

Action: Tabled

l) Budget Questions??

Action: See announcements/new business below

4. Informational Items

a) Basic Definitions: Web 1.0, Web 2.0, Web 3.0

Action: The article has to do with two issues we have been talking about: how to compete in a Web 2.0 world and to show the Council there are top notch universities using the open coursework model.

b) FHSU Advertisement

Action: Tabled

c) The Rise of the Maghreb

Action: Tabled

B. Announcements/New Business

The Council received a budget update from President Hammond. The University has gone from 15 to 18 vacant positions. There are three positions in the Vice President for Administration and Finance area that have become vacant due to retirement of three employees.

Sabbatical applications are going to be awarded but not this year. Applicants can take their sabbaticals next year (guaranteed) if the budget improves.

However, the President is funding promotion and degree completions this year.

We now have clarification on the state health plan. Employees will have to pay 7 percent more than they did last year. Next year, the University's share of health insurance will be approximately \$500,000.

Everything is set on the budget as soon as we hear from Topeka. The President, Provost and Vice Presidents will get together and make decisions on cuts if they are needed. The only thing missing is the international component and how we will proceed. We will use the BBA model for this year and make a decision in mid year of

2010 as to whether or not we want to continue with this model. President Hammond wants to have the section numbers before he leaves for China. The student enrollment numbers have been approved by the partners and we should use these numbers to determine the workload. Deans were asked to give the Provost their recommendations and he will send them on to the President.

Ken Trantham passed out a document on how to norm reference the peer evaluation data.

The Provost distributed excerpts from students/SGA on the use of mobile teaching at FHSU. This should not be distributed beyond the Council. The University has changed its policy on Mobile Teaching. We no longer are requiring students to purchase a tablet computer to attend FHSU beginning with the Academic Year 2009-2010. A subsidiary committee of ITPAC will be created and be responsible for maintaining the mobile teaching website.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:20 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