

MINUTES
Provost's Council
February 3, 2009

The Provost's Council met on February 3, 2009, 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, Micol Maughan, John Ross and Larry Gould

A. Call to Order

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

1. Strategy Item

a) DETC Accreditation

Action: Fort Hays State has HLC accreditation and everyone knows this is the gold standard in the U.S. However, that doesn't mean we can't have other types of accreditation. There are military students who are inquiring about DETC accreditation. It is something we need to consider in the future because we will be having students wanting to attend FHSU if we have this type of accreditation. The Provost and the President want to talk about accepting courses from DETC accredited schools and also pursuing accreditation by DETC. It was suggested perhaps looking at becoming accredited with other universities that are recognized by CHEA at the same time as accreditation with DETC. The Council was instructed to review the subject and to discuss it at a later date. Dr. Crawford was asked to do some research on other recognized CHEA accreditations.

b) Management Intensity: Budget Directions, Actions and FHSU Tactics

Action: The deadline to have the information to the Provost is Monday, February 9.

c) Growth Strategy and Tactics/Course Efficiencies

Action: President Hammond has decided to designate two levels of growth to reach our goal of enrollment of 12,500 students by the year 2020. Every year, we need to grow four percent for on-campus students and for the off-campus growth a goal of eight percent -- 4,000 international and 8,500 domestic Virtual College. The deans were asked to take a look at the handout to figure out a way to reach the goal of increasing enrollment by 1,000 credit hours with strategies being: increasing the maximum enrollment size, offering 8-week courses, hiring faculty with an average salary of \$3,500, etc. We need around 70 to 80 additional courses to reach our goal. Salary thresholds should be done by college. The deadline to have the information to the Provost is Monday, February 9.

2. Discussion/Deliberation Items

a) Colorado Higher Education Opportunity Office

Action: The office is now open and up and running. It is a resource that is ongoing and there will be a session on campus later in the semester with Tom Gaschler. The Virtual College will send out the contact information.

b) President's Annual Review—revisited

Action: The President is requesting a summary from each college. It will be due by February 23.

c) Media for Virtual College

Action: Tabled

d) Friday-only Classes

Action: Tabled

e) Policy for Fulbright Awards

Action: The President has agreed to support the fund but we need a minimum stipend established along with other standards. Dr. Crowley will create the standards and attach it to the current policy.

f) Council of Graduate Schools Research Report

Action: Tabled

g) Professional Writing Meetings – Budget Strategy Confusion

Action: Tabled

h) Colleges Woo Adults Who Have Some Credits but No Degree

Action: This is about adult learners and the whole effort to make this an institutional goal to bring in students who have credits but no degree. The idea is to market to these students to earn a certificate or degree from FHSU.

i) Short-term Study Abroad

Action: Tabled

j) The Proof is in the Portfolio

Action: The article reinforces the idea of Epsilon. AAC&U is one of the few organizations saying academia doesn't need to use the old standards but come up with new ways to assess student outcomes.

k) Final Order: Temps and Lecturers

Action: FHSU decided to not appeal the PERB ruling to allow temporary faculty to be allowed in the bargaining unit. Three reasons to agree to the change are: There are some unhappy faculty in the unit; 2) this will do away with the .9 FTE contracts; and, 3) allow us to resurrect the idea of including lecturers as titles for faculty to teach courses at FHSU. The contention of the Lecturer title seems to be the component of research. The Provost will put it back on the agenda for further discussion.

3. Informational Items

a) Development Abroad Opportunities with Obama Administration

Action: It may have some study abroad opportunities in Liberia and other countries through the Virtual College.

b) Is FHSU Shovel Ready?

Action: The University needs to be “shovel ready” and know where the monies are going and how we can be prepared to take advantage of these opportunities.

c) Summer Institutes

Action: These may be potential institutes for next summer.

d) Crushed by College

Action: The article talks about the myth that prevails and is facilitated by higher education that if you have a college degree, you will make more money than if you have a high school degree.

B. Announcements/New Business

1) Replacement of TEVAL – Faculty Senate, Docking Institute and another party are going to look at another instrument (Qualtrix) but it will probably not be available for the fall semester. The Provost is concerned about the policies and procedures for delivery of this new instrument before implementation.

2) One of the reasons for all of the budget woes can be explained by the handout distributed at the meeting. This was a presentation at the National Council of State Legislatures and printed in the Kansas State Legislature publication. The part that caught the Provost’s attention is the course design development. This is one of the things we are advocating as a starting point for other courses and for the Seven Revolutions course. He would like to have Carol Twigg come to campus to talk about the course redesign process and also send Paul Faber, Curt Brungardt and perhaps two other faculty members to a conference in Orlando on this subject. The Council may be able to use the information. The second document talks about a lot of the same things we are talking about in the Council. All of this is a preview of what is going to be talked about in Washington. The federal government will play a larger role in education and especially, higher education.

3) The Council was urged to read the document on the Senate’s Appropriations Committee take on the stimulus package. This is the best rendition of what the stimulus package means to us.

4) MOA between FHSU and St. John’s University – Cindy Elliott and Todd Powell are working on an MOA. The MOA states that coursework will be available to earn a B.A. degree in Environmental Science. We don’t offer that degree. The Provost thinks it may be a BGS degree not a B.A. Also part of the MOA states we will offer two business courses which doesn’t make sense since there is an early statement in the MOA of offering a degree in Environmental Science. There are other parts of the MOA that are

very confusing. Part of the document shouldn't even be included in the agreement and it has not been signed by either parties. Action: Asked Paul Faber, Tim Crowley and Jeff Briggs to meet with Todd Powell to determine what should be included in the MOA.

5) All camps must be within the 4-day work week this summer. The campers can be brought in on Sunday but must leave on Thursday. If we can't accommodate the four-day work week, the camps will be cancelled.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting was adjourned 12:33 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