

MINUTES  
Provost's Council  
November 3, 2009

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, November 03, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

Members present: Mark Bannister, Jeff Briggs, Tim Crowley, Cindy Elliott, Paul Faber, Sheila McGuire for Dennis King, Debbie Mercer, John Ross and Larry Gould

Member absent: Chris Crawford

Guests: Joey Linn, Jackie Ruder, Travis Taggart and President Hammond

**A. Call to Order**

The Provost called the meeting to order.

*1. Strategy Items*

a) Strategic Initiatives between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs

Action: Tabled

b) Tilford Conference Discussion

Action: Tabled

*2. Discussion/Deliberation Items*

a) Capacity Report

Action: The purpose of the discussion is to determine if we should continue growing by increasing the maximums or capacity of our online courses. President Hammond indicated the report that was included in the agenda shows we were able to get additional capacity, substantial increase and revenue growth. The Strategic Planning Committee met and reviewed the action plans but decided to not go forward with the strategic planning process until the University receives information from the Governor on potential cuts to the budget. The Provost outlined his proposal to grow 400 to 500 at a time instead of exploding the number to 1,000. The President is going to make a decision before Thanksgiving and let the Provost's Council know his decision on whether increasing the Virtual College allocation by another \$100,000 to increase the growth by 400-500 students. The President has another couple of concepts in mind that don't have to do anything with academics that he has identified as cost savings.

b) Online Grade Entry through TigerTracks at 10:30 a.m.

Action: Travis Taggart and Jackie Ruder provided the Council with a demonstration on the CTC program which allows for mid-term and final grades to be entered electronically. It is accessible through TigerTracks. Because the program lists all of the instructors' courses, there is no room for error in forgetting a class or that all students' grades need to be entered. The program has a field for the last date attended for withdrawals and for a grade of "U." It was suggested adding a comment with the grades for retention purposes. Also, add the complete title of topics, thesis, readings, etc to the course. The next project will to work on rosters/photo roster to be added to the program. It was agreed to mandate usage of this program to entry grades effective fall 2009. An email will be sent out by Joey Linn to faculty showing the link on how to access the program. Eventually, the system will be able to generate reports using the grade entry for faculty, chairs and deans.

c) Tenure Track Completion Rate

Action: Informational item

d) Top 25 Courses by Enrollment

Action: Informational item

e) Sustainability Reports

Action: Each of the three divisions of the university will be responsible for submitting their information to President Hammond. The Provost asked for the information from the Provost's Council by November 6.

f) Access Without Support is not Opportunity

Action: This article demonstrates the importance of having support for initiatives/programs. Retention of students continues to be a hot topic for the Regents and the country. We are recruiting all types of students and giving them access to an education but not providing the support to succeed. There are three groups that FHSU has enrollments from low-income, non-traditional and underrepresented students – all are hard to retain. This article talks about what can be done to improve our efforts to retain these students.

g) Improving Retention Rates by Ten Percent

Action: Right now the measure on the table is a ten percent retention improvement over the next 10 years. The attachment included in the agenda was done by the Office of Student Affairs showing how to improve retention at the University to meet this goal. The deans indicated this project is ridiculous and probably impossible to reach. The Provost does not know what the outcome will be, but wanted the Council to be prepared if a request comes from the Regents on retention. The President is going to submit the proposal asking for the money to redesign the Seven Revolutions course.

h) Qualified Admissions

Action: Drs. Gould and Linn attended a KBOR meeting last week in Topeka to discuss qualified admissions. After a three-hour discussion, the bottom line is there is a consensus that pre-collegiate curriculum will no longer be an option, it will be a requirement. Principle two is that all institutional mission criteria must be defined. Dr. Linn is working on this profile and any input from the Council should be sent directly to him. The KBOR office was asked by Regent Sherrer to prepare a proposal based on these two principles. The Council was reminded this is still in draft form and a final policy will not be approved until later in the fiscal year.

3. *Informational Items*

a) Most Students to Take Classes Online by 2014

Action: This is informational item

b) US Market for Self-Paced eLearning

Action: This is about professional development and academics.

**B. Announcements/New Business**

Action: None

**C. Adjournment**

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond

Dr. Tisa Mason

Mr. Larry Getty

Dr. Joey Linn

Dr. Jeff Burnett

Mr. Brad Stramel

Ms. Casey Kelch

Provost's Council Secretaries