

MINUTES
Provost's Council
January 13, 2011

The Provost's Council met on Thursday, January 13, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room.

Members present: Mark Bannister, Jeff Briggs, Chris Crawford, Tim Crowley, Cindy Elliott, Paul Faber, Dennis King, John Ross, Robert Scott and Larry Gould

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Provost Gould.

1. Discussion Items

a) Academic Programs that Meet Regents Standards

Action: The Council discussed the document that lists all of our academic programs and which ones are not meeting the minima standards. Unfortunately the data is not accurate due to the data entry by the Regents staff. Dr. Crawford passed out additional data that reflect all of our academic programs. There are artifacts of data that create anomalies which need to be explained. Whatever we can do to clean up the data will help the University in the long run.

b) KPI's for URE

Action: This was assigned as one of the goals for the AQIP strategy. This is the KPI on how to support the undergraduate research initiative. These goals were given to FHSU at the last AQIP meeting and the Council of Institutional Effectiveness is working on the goals to provide breadth to them.

c) Update on Cambodia Visit

Action: The University has signed two agreements with two Cambodia universities. These agreements are cross-border, dual program in the BGS program. Study abroad exchanges will be for any program with the PUC. These will be 2 + 2 programs. They are discussing having students start in fall 2011. Both institutions are English-speaking. Cindy was asked to send out the URL for these two institutions to the Council.

d) Where the Jobs Are

Action: The Provost didn't say a lot about the article. There are a number of jobs being created that pertain to each of the academic areas.

e) State Certificate Completion Metrics and National Comparisons

Action: FHSU doesn't report certificates right now but we need to start doing a better job of advertising the certificates we have in our academic departments.

f) the BIG event

Action: It was started by the Texas A&M student government to show their appreciation to the community by having a service learning day. The FHSU Student Government is proposing a similar event here at the University. It would be one day of service learning in the spring (including off-campus students). Tyler Thompson is proposing students participate in a service learning project as a class. SGA is asking for support from the deans and chairs and to direct interested parties to contact their student government representatives.

g) Regents Foundational Skills

Action: These are activities that have been outlined for Foresight 2020. The goals will remain at the state universities level. These have been approved by COCAO as the Essential Learning Outcomes for Foresight 2020. We need to align all of our activities with these outcomes.

h) Transfer Credit Policies and Procedures

Action: We have a policy which fulfilled the Higher Education Opportunity Act. We may want to tweek it in the future, but it will work for now.

i) Student of Color Pulse Group

Action: The numbers are not very big and not sure how much information can be drawn from the data. The Office of Student Affairs collected the data. It is mainly as an informational item.

j) A Facelift for the GRE

Action: We only have a few departments that use this tool to admit students to their programs. There are a couple of changes to the test but they don't seem to be all that significant.

k) Using Social Media to Engage Commuter Students

Action: This goes along with the theme of increasing social media, the student engagement theme and mobile technology.

2. Informational Items

a) British Business School Offers MBA on Facebook

Action: Facebook has some potential and some danger. We still cannot ignore it. There may be some faculty (including adjunct) saying Facebook will be their learning management system at some point.

b) Houses in Order

Action: It is a nasty and inaccurate editorial from the Topeka Capitol about the higher education system and housing. The Provost wanted everyone to be aware of it.

c) Internships as a High-Impact Practice

Action: The Council was asked to share with chairs. It is an embellishment of the article that was passed out earlier in the meeting.

d) He'd Like to Teach the World to Talk

Action: It may be a tool to move our freshman/sophomore students into graduate school. The article suggests providing Rosetta Stone to all of our Chinese students. If not, Rosetta Stone, then another software.

e) Online, Bigger Classes May Be Better Classes

Action: It is an interesting piece about "open teaching." It has some marketing implications for us.

f) Bloomberg Businessweek Year in Review

Action: The article suggests that the economy is not great but is getting better. However, two out of the three people feel the economy is bad. It talks about facts versus perceptions.

g) Student Learning: Measure or Perish

Action: It is all about distinguishing ourselves from other universities.

h) An Obituary Printed in the London Times

Action: The loss of common sense.

B. Announcements/New Business

Distribution of the AACU publication entitled, Five High Impact Practices.

C. Adjournment

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

c: Dr. Edward Hammond

Dr. Tisa Mason

Mr. Larry Getty

Dr. Joey Linn

Dr. Rita Hauck

Mr. Tyler Thompson

Ms. Casey Rohleder

Provost's Council Secretaries