

MINUTES
Provost's Council
October 7, 2011

The Provost's Council met on Friday, October 7, 2011 at 8:45 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

Members present: Jeff Briggs, Chris Crawford, Tim Crowley, Paul Faber, Dennis King, Robert Scott, Mary Meier for Cindy Elliott, Sharon Severson for John Ross, Larry Gould

Members absent: Mark Bannister

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Discussion Items

a) Review Office of Strategic Partnership Resource Guide and Protocols Document
Action: Provost Gould asked Paul Faber and Mark Bannister to review the document since it will affect their colleges more than the other two. Dr. Gould is concerned since there already is an IEMG Handbook, Faculty and Unclassified Staff Handbook and the MOU agreement, the information in this document may be bumping into other documents. It is important to have consistency of information in all of publications. This is just one more publication the Chinese can use to find loopholes for their own purposes. He suggested maybe remaking it into a student handbook. The Council was asked to review the document for discussion at the next meeting.

b) Gifts, Prizes, Awards and Promotional Items Purchased
Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

c) James Pierce and The World Record for the Most Degrees: Do We Need a Policy?
Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

d) Department Criteria Guidelines
Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

e) Council of Professors Emeriti
Action: The Council was asked about the possibility of creating a similar type of Council for FHSU. The item was tabled to the next meeting. The deans asked for a list of emeriti faculty. Cindy Cline will send a copy to the Council electronically.

f) Date in April for Anya Kamenetz Visit
Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

g) Changes to Foresight 2020 Learner Outcome Goals
Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

h) Study Abroad Scholarships

Action: Tim Crowley explained the document in the agenda which lists students who received scholarships for the spring and summer semesters. Chris Crawford will visit with Carol Solko and Craig Karlin to provide a list of students participating in study abroad activities.

i) Common Core Standards

Action: The Regents are considering adopting these common core standards for all Regents universities. Many other states have also adopted similar standards. The P-12 Task Force has been dissolved and the Regents will be using this process instead. The concern is the impact on accreditation as to what is or not included as content.

j) Faculty Productivity “Directions”

Action: This article is ongoing commentary between Texas and Florida. The premise from these discussions is the perception that faculty need to be more productive. This is an informational item to keep the Council apprised of what is going on with this issue. The Council was asked to share with the faculty.

k) ITPAC Information

Action: The ITPAC Committee reports to the Provost but is chaired by Dave Schmidt. The Provost reviewed the discussion items from the last meeting. 1) There is a lecture capture policy in the minutes for review by the Council. 2) There is some discussion about moving away from scatcat (financially and which one—hotmail and gmail and security) and moving to a mandatory email or do away with a mandatory email and everyone submit their preferred email account. 3) Clicker usage is available but not a lot of faculty are using it. Jake Glover was asked to send a note to faculty to increase awareness of this tool. 4) We still have text on the website about requiring students to buy tablets and we need to get together to review the language and post accurate information out there. It was suggested John Ross and/or Cynthia Garrety to work on the revisions.

2. Information Items

a) K-State Strategic Plan

Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

b) Guidelines for Creating a Living and Learning Community

Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

c) Hunger Dialogue Documents

Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

d) Apps + Micro-Sites: The Future

Action: Discussed at September 27 meeting.

B. Announcements/New Business

1) Mr. Jerrid Freeman has been hired as the interim director for the Memorial Union.

- 2) Dr. Faber gave a brief overview of his trip to China. Northwest University is looking to setting up partnerships with research in mind. Complete details will be given to the Council once Cindy Elliott returns. Dr. Faber was asked to speak with University Relations about getting some publicity for his teaching experience.
- 3) The Provost announced he will not consider action plans that are less than \$1000 and only five from each budget unit for this year's Strategic Planning process.
- 4) Reviewed the Yield Rates for On-Campus First-Time Freshman and Transfer Students. This was distributed at the President's Staff Meeting on Monday. Dr. Gould asked Dennis if he would be able to do something similar for Virtual College. It was announced that last year's retention rate for freshmen was 65 percent.
- 5) The Provost reminded the deans about the Faculty Senate's evaluation of chairs. If there are some chairs that need to have some review, the deans were encouraged to talk with them.
- 6) The Provost is going to buy 10 slots in the Management series to be used for Academic Affairs chairs, directors or unclassified staff.
- 7) Discussed Qualified Admissions for the University with the Council. The Provost asked Paul, Rob and Dennis to meet and come up with a 2-page summary of a recommendation to give to the President by the end of the semester.
- 8) The Provost requested two packets of information about the PSM degree by the end of October from Jeff Briggs and Tim Crowley.
- 9) Core Outcomes will hurt our Virtual College general education classes and our majors in the long run where significant enrollment is based on general education. All of the state's attempts at inefficiencies will be detrimental to FHSU. The curriculum was established in the late 1990's and does not allow for innovation in courses and learning outcomes. The Provost doesn't mind changing the general education program as long as it brings out some distinctive outcomes. The General Education Committee will take a look at a variety of approaches including an account of what our fellow Regent institutions are doing. There are some common taxonomies for general education to get a handle on what is going on. The Committee will then come up with tentative approaches and have faculty input and forums before making a recommendation to the Faculty Senate. Brad Will and Paul Faber will meet and determine how we should proceed if the Regents approve the 15 core outcomes.

Action: We need to wait until we find out what the Regents are going to do before moving forward on this initiative. However, we can still review the LEAP goals and the degree portfolio and software on ePortfolio.

10) Revisions to the 2020 document. Rob Scott is revising the superintendents and the special education directors section and was asked to submit a recommendation to the Provost by the end of the year. Council members were asked to review Item #4 as requested by the President.

11) Scholarship numbers indicate a surplus of \$40,000 from the departmental awards. The Provost asked why. The deans think it has to do with the “take” rate. Some of the “takes” were from the other awards that we offer and declined the department awards.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond
Dr. Tisa Mason
Mr. Larry Getty
Dr. Joey Linn
Dr. Chapman Rackaway
Mr. Tyler Thompson
Ms. Casey Rohleder
Provost’s Council Secretaries