

MINUTES
Provost's Council
January 24, 2012

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

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

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Strategy Item

First Year Experience/Freshman Seminar Strategic Plan

Action: Chris will be on the search committee for the Director of the First Year Experience. This is the first step in this initiative. It is being coordinated by Shana Meyer. The Division of Student Affairs is in the process of hiring a director for the First Year Experience. It is not certain if the person will have a student affairs background or academics. The Provost would like to put together a list of questions to ascertain the value of the position. The purpose of the initiative is retention but what are the factors at FHSU that cause low retention. If we can identify the factors that are causing the low retention, we can then identify solutions to resolve it.

2. Discussion Items

a) Alignment of Higher Education with the Kansas Economy

Action: The document is background for any proposed new curricula, programs, etc. It shows where the state will be going in the future. The #2 PowerPoint of this initiative will be sent to the members electronically by Cindy Cline.

b) Transfer Review and Suggested Articulation/KBOR General Education Transfer Courses. Seamless transfer of courses throughout the Regents system is the charge the committee. They will be moving more courses to the core outcomes project as a quality assurance mechanism for these courses. It is unclear if they will recommend a new articulation agreement or just courses that transfer from one college to another. A listing of courses that have been approved as courses that transfer with ease were included in the agenda. However, there is no coherence in the program. These courses will be transferable from community colleges to state universities without question. We may not have any choice in the future if we can or cannot accept these types of courses. The Provost reminded the deans to be sure that our faculty attend the Core Outcomes Project to provide input on this committee.

c) FHSU Transfer Award for Community Colleges

Action: The Provost asked if it makes any sense to give an award to one or two community colleges who work well with FHSU. The article in the agenda talks about a

similar practice at a community college in New York. We could have two awards—in-state and out-of-state. Dennis King and Brad Goebel were assigned the task to prepare a proposal for the project. It was suggested communicating with Jon Armstrong in Admissions to work on the project since he works with our community colleges. It was also suggested having a military award as well. The award would be given to the President of the community college as part of the recognition. Also, we need some publicity associated with the award presentation.

d) Summer Research Report

Action: It was the Provost's understanding that if a faculty member receives a research award, that faculty member would not teach a class that summer. The Provost is struggling to get faculty to cutback on their offerings. If we don't allow the faculty member to teach the class who is an expert in the field, how do we cover the course if they receive a research grant. Dr. Faber is agreeable to spreading the wealth among his college. If the Provost had more money, he would be willing to fund more research and courses. It is important faculty be aware of the rules of the game before submitting research proposals. Consideration needs to be made as to how these classes fit into the curriculum versus the research award. The decision was made to have one research award and not teach a class per faculty. The awards will be determined before spring break.

e) Undergraduate English Language Proficiency Requirements

Action: These are suggested changes to the course catalog requirements that are reflective of practice and the new screening requirement. This is just minimal admission requirements. The changes were approved and will be distributed to the IEMG committee for approval. If approved at IEMG, it will be forwarded to Cabinet.

f) Final Course Evaluation Participation Numbers

Action: The Council discussed the competition that was used as an incentive to have departments involved in students returning surveys. This will also be done in the spring semester. The award will be to the top two departments and the one department with the most improved percentage points. It was agreed to let Chris Crawford make the final decision on how to award the money in the spring semester but the Provost suggested keeping it the same way.

g) Diverse Issues

This service is now available for all FHSU searches during the 2012 calendar year. Lisa Karlin will be communicating this to search committees when she meets with them. Cindy Cline will ask Lisa if the Provost needs to send out some type of email announcing the availability of this service.

h) Teaching and Learning with Technology: Lecture Capture

Action: This a suggested policy to be used by the University.

i) FHSU Proposed Policy

Action: The Provost wants the faculty to have a positive experience when using the technology. He is hoping ITPAC will come up with a policy for the University.

3. Report from the Future/Informational Items

a) A Shifting Market Stings Chinese Homeowners

Action: This change in China may or may not affect our enrollment. The article is an informational item.

b) KBOR Transfer Feedback Report

Action: According to the data collected by KBOR, we do pretty well in comparison to other state universities when it comes to transferring courses from community colleges.

c) To Regulate For-Profit Colleges, Focus on What Matters

Action: Information article that pertains to non-profit colleges as well. The Provost is not sure the federal government is focusing on issues that matter especially for-profit colleges. The average amount of debt students will incur is around \$20,000 for a college education in the United States.

d) A Guide to Service Learning

Action: Jeff Burnett is working on a website for service learning which provides a basic guide of essential information for inclusion of service learning in the curriculum. This is an informational item.

4. What Should We Know Today?

No response from members.

B. Announcements/New Business

1) Discussion of requiring midterm grades for our Virtual College students.

Action: The Council supports better usage of current technology to provide information to the students about how they are performing in the class. However, they do not support issuing midterm grades. It was agreed to put a policy in place that reinforces and provides guidelines in Blackboard in a timely manner. Everyone supports providing student feedback but there is no solution on which platform to use to do that at this point.

2) Discussion on the payment of SEAC faculty. The Provost distributed the information on how the SEAC advisors will be paid and the assignment of FTE to the colleges. There is a fundamental change in the model: a new position becomes possible when a threshold of 10,000 SCH is reached, instead of being triggered by the number of students. At that point, the Provost can ask the President for an additional position but there is no guarantee he will approve it. Rob Scott was instructed to talk to Larry Getty about upgrading Kevin's salary to \$33,000 since he has a master's degree. There is a chance to purchase computers for these advisors. Deans were instructed to work with Larry Getty. The Council agreed it is important training be provided as soon as all of the people have been hired. Dennis King and Brad Goebel need to include key performance indicators to the document. The OOE goes into Virtual College budget.

3) Discussion on the Early IQ software. – The software is triggered manually by the faculty member in Tigercentral. The goal for the Virtual College is to have the process automated by using Blackboard. Early IQ pulls information from residential life, faculty,

and other sources that have been set up by CTC. It does not use Blackboard to pull data. The only person in academics on the committee is Brad Goebel who is answering questions for faculty. Dr. Mason agreed that other faculty can be appointed to the committee. This software doesn't help our online students but can help on campus. It pulls information from faculty surveys. The data collected will be from the 4th week, 12th week and end of semester for grade reporting. However, this is optional for faculty to participate. The system can also do quick flags, which sets up a red flag about the student throughout the semester. The reports come with values. The incentive to use this system is if a faculty member is worried about a student, they can tracked in various facades of college life. Council members were encouraged to attend the Early IQ training sessions. Dennis was instructed to look into purchasing "starfish" for the Virtual College by talking with Mike Barnett.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

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