

MINUTES
Provost's Council
July 17, 2012

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, SH 306.

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

Guests: Craig Karlin and Dixie Balman

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Discussion Items

a) Departmental Scholarships for Incoming Freshman Students

Action: The Financial Aid Office has been looking at online scholarship software for some time and an academic works system that will be more user friendly for the students. The software will allow us to do auto-matching with scholarships. On the department side, it will match the students with the awards they are eligible to apply for. It will help us to set earlier deadlines, which will allow us to recruit students to the University. Another feature is the accessibility to donors. Donor information can be added to scholarship application to put a face with a name. This recognition will also help bring more money to the departments. As far as the transition, it will be slow. This year will be a pilot to see how it will work. The Financial Aid Office would like to go live with the site on September 15, 2012. However, it is not recommended for continuing awards or incoming freshmen.

b) Internship Reports

Action: Internship information is currently coordinated with the Career Services Office. Right now, they are the clearinghouse for the University. There is really no movement as far as using the office as a contact. The Provost gave an update on the issue. We have a site on Blackboard and Epsilen that can be used as a resource for internships. It is not turned "on" at our University right now. The Council discussed enabling this on our site and explored how it could be utilized to be reverted back to Career Services. The Provost will talk to the President about pursuing this option with our Blackboard site. The Provost will send the email with the attachments to the Council.

c) First-Time Freshman Enrolled in Virtual College Courses

Action: The President wants to know why these first-time freshman students are enrolled in Virtual College courses instead of on-campus sections. Some of the responses from the deans include: no open on-campus sections, athletes are unable to enroll in classes after 2 pm, students need general education classes and there are none available on campus, late enrollment and nothing else available, sometimes it is a holding course until they can get into the class they want to take, we have to fill classes in the spring as well,

not just in the fall. The President is pursuing calling these students to find out why they are taking the course after he receives ACT scores. These numbers are less than five percent of total enrollment and the deans encouraged advisors to place students in on-campus courses. The proposal is to find out when this data was collected and use it as a baseline to compare it to the next set of data and see what happens to these students. It was suggested Joey Linn follow up by calling these students to find out why they are enrolled in the classes. Chris Crawford is also asking Dr. Linn to run the data again with additional variables-ACT scores, advisor and maximum enrollments. The new report will be sent to Drs. Crawford and Gould.

d) Embedded Librarians

Action: This is a plan on how the librarians would “embed” themselves in the classrooms for the fall 2012 semester as a pilot project. There has been no communication with the department chairs about this project. John Ross wants to add branding, a set of good practices, assessment, key performance indicators, and other options to the proposal before it is distributed to the departments. The librarians are available and it is now up to the faculty member to decide if they want them in the classroom. It will be one faculty member per department for now. The other departments on the list are ones that use library resources in teaching their classes. John Ross was asked to move forward with this proposal and contact the departments on the list to begin the process.

e) Evaluation Based on the Role of the Department Chair

Action: The forms that are in the agenda are what was brought forward for review. The Council was asked to look at these documents and it will be discussed ultimately to create one document for the academic affairs area. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

f) Changes to Faculty Merit Timeline

Action: Revise timeline for review at next meeting.

g) More of “Saying More with Less”

Action: Will be put back on the agenda.

h) Virtual College Pay for Retired Faculty

Action: Will be put back on the agenda.

i) Web Content Management

Action: Will be put back on the agenda.

j) Adjunct Project

Action: We need to do a course development process to support and engage adjunct professors. This will be put back on the agenda.

2. Decision Items

a) Recipient of Edmund Shearer Faculty Advisor Award

Action: Selected recipient for this award.

3. Informational Items

a) A Future of Badges

Action: Informational item.

b) It's Too Soon to Measure the ROI of Social Media

Action: Informational item.

c) Process and Fees for Visa Applications

Action: Please share with department chairs.

d) MOOC Stuff

Action: Informational item.

e) What Do Chinese Students Want

Action: This is a quick rendition of what NAFSA made up and has very interesting points that may concern Chinese students, particularly quality of education and availability of degree.

f) Predicting Student Success: When SAT and GPA are Not Enough

Action: This is just some ideas that have been put together by Crawford and Gould of what predicts student success.

4. What Should We Know Today?

The plan is to use Blackboard for SIAS next year.

B. New Business

a) Distribution of Graduate School Strategic Plan

This is a good, compact way to provide information about the Graduate School and can be used as a model for others.

b) Simple, Condensed rendition of what Obama's Budget Proposal is for FY 2013.

c) Distribution of Information about a Workshop for Department Chairs. Drs. Crawford and Gould spoke with the representative from this company about doing a workshop on campus. What do you think about having a workshop on campus and particularly this one? It is still valuable to send chairs to workshops off campus.

C. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond

Dr. Tisa Mason

Mr. Larry Getty

Dr. Joey Linn

Provost's Council Administrative Assistants