MINUTES Provost's Council June 19, 2012

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, June 19 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room.

Members present: Mark Bannister, Brad Will for Paul Faber, Germaine Taggart for Robert Scott, Chris Crawford, Tim Crowley, John Ross, Mary Meier for Cindy Elliott, Dennis King and Jeff Briggs

Members present: Joey Linn

A. Call to Order

Action: The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

1. Discussion Items

a) Transfer and Articulation Policy

Action: There are really no implications for FHSU because we have always accepted a ton of courses and there is a list of specific courses that we have to accept. However, the list will expand to include additional courses. The structural change is the Core Outcomes Advisory Board will have authority to determine outcomes for each of these courses and the courses for next year. Absence at the Core Outcomes meeting will mean a consenting vote of approval for all issues that are proposed. The long term goal is to get the KBOR Regents website up and running so a student can access the site to determine if a course they have taken will transfer to which state universities. One issue that has been resolved is that History will now count for humanities and social sciences.

- b) Definition of Visiting Professor: Chapter 3 of the Faculty Handbook Action: The Provost wanted to clarify the definition of what constitutes a visiting faculty. The title of "visiting" is by invitation by the University to teach for us on a temporary basis and not on a continuing contract. This should not be used in advertising a temporary or tenure-track position for an open position. The title should be instructor coming into the university unless they have a terminal degree and can have the title of Assistant Professor. It is proposed by KBOR that Adjunct Professor being hired on a regular basis will be required to have a criminal background check performed.
- c) Foresight 2020 Report Undergraduate Student Learning Assessment Action: We have submitted areas that we feel should be part of the student learning assessments. These include: mathematics/quantitative/analytical reasoning; writing and oral communication; and critical thinking/problem solving.
- d) Agreement between KBOR and Missouri Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE)

Action: We already have an agreement with Missouri to allow us to teach distance education courses in their state but the state of Kansas is charging fees for Missouri to teach in the state. The criteria statement for applying in Kansas is included in the agenda.

e) TigerLeaders

Action: Chris Crawford has a list of nominees from three of the deans. The only exception is Arts and Sciences. Conceptually, it will be a monthly meeting (August through April excluding December) like Leadership Hays and there will be a 2 ½ session with one hour on leadership and one hour on what is going on around campus. This will create networking and provide information for aspiring, junior faculty. There will be a limit of 12 faculty for this first year. The Provost sees this initiative as an opportunity to help fill the void for faculty to receive more information about the university, trends in higher education, university procedures, etc. The Provost would like to include this information on our website. The deans and chairs will have access to the agenda/minutes of what is happening at the meetings.

2. Decision Items

a) Honorary Degree Policy

Action: The President has indicated the University will not award honorary degrees. This policy does not need to go forward and should be removed from discussion.

b) Administrative Calendar for 2012-2013

Action: Approved with the following changes: The dean's office will be responsible for sending out the initial and follow-up letter to non-renewal faculty. The second letter will not be sent out by the Provost's Office as in the past. A reminder to the dean's secretaries is requested by the deans.

c) Tenure Timelines for 2012-2013

Action: This calendar was approved. The Council discussed elimination of the first-year notebook. The Deans will consult with their chairs and provide feedback. It will be put back on the agenda for July 17.

d) Faculty Member of the Year Award

Action: The faculty member was selected to be announced at Fall Convocation.

3) Informational Items

a) Request for Approval of Bachelor of Arts in Global Business English

Action: Informational item.

b) 28th Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning

Action: Informational item.

c) The Cobol Brain Drain

Action: Cobal is not just a problem for us but for colleges all over the country.

d) Winners of NCCI Leveraging Excellence Award 2012

Action: This award usually is given to universities that have the best practices of how to do things on campus.

- e) Definition of Non-Traditional Students: A Paradigm Change Action: It sure changes the idea of what is considered a non-traditional student
- f) Regents Request to Align with Kansas Workforce Needs and Ensure University Excellence Action: The Regents went to the governor's office to attempt to get the state to match the Regents request for a one percent bounty for schools that meet the performance agreement goals. The governor dismissed the bill and it is dead for this past legislative session.

g) Twelve Tech Innovators:

Action: This proves the point that Straighterline is still an option for many students.

h) Big Data

Action: Big data is a big topic in higher education. It is ramping up the importance of the data in decision making. With technology available, it is now easier than ever to review the data to make decisions. The deans were asked to create a list of faculty who are competent and confident to perform analysis of big data. The names should be sent to the Provost and Assistant Provost. Challenge is in interpretation and how to ask the right questions.

i) eJournal of Public Affairs

Action: Folks at Missouri State made a presentation on a request for submissions to their Journal. The Provost agreed to provide the promotional information to the deans.

New Items

a) How to Hire an LMS. The future of learning is not proprietary but open sourcing. The article lists variables to consider for a new Learning Management Systems. We are going to renew our membership with Epsilen. We currently have Blackboard but we need to think about other ways of learning.

Dennis asked for the Council's approval of the Blackboard Policy on Syllabi. The policy reads: On the business day before the beginning of the semester, the syllabi will be unavailable. It won't be removed from the system, just stored on the server. Action: The policy was approved by consensus.

Changes to the Regents policy handbook were distributed to the Council for their use.

C. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond

Dr. Tisa Mason Mr. Larry Getty Dr. Joey Linn Provost's Council Administrative Assistants