

MINUTES  
Provost's Council  
April 2, 2013

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, April 02, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

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

Guests: Joey Linn and Mandy Ricke

**A. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Provost.

**1. Strategy Item**

PLA Proposal: Applications and Implications – Dennis King

Action: The PLA falls under the accelerated mechanisms at the University and is updated by the Academic Advising Office. We want to put in place quality assessment and initiatives to help students but to also avoid the misuse of providing credit to students. We need to create a model that balances affordability and is also attractive to students. The process would be: the student applies to the PLA coordinator who will work with that person to determine which courses could be used for credit. A rubric would be created for each course. A faculty member would work with the student to put together the information and mentoring for the portfolio. A faculty member would review the materials and determine if credit can be awarded or not. We still have to meet the requirements mandated by the Regents. Pass/No credit cannot be applied to a major unless approved by the department; it has to be an elective. The proposal indicates the student can either use their portfolio for credit or no credit. There were concerns about our reputation of laundering credits and being associated with these types of universities. It was clear the Council were not unanimously in favor of the program. The Provost requested some Council members and faculty from Faculty Senate discuss this proposal and our current accelerated mechanisms. Once the group has met, prepare a proposal and bring it back to the Council for further discussion. The suggested working committee will include: Dennis King, Robert Scott, Faculty Senate representative, Patty Griffin and Jeff Burnett. A final list of the committee members will be sent to the Provost. Dr. Gould's charge to the committee is to look at the big picture and to keep it affordable for our students.

**2. Discussion Items**

a) Internationalization of the Campus and Curriculum

Action: The annual survey of students and their perceptions of our internationalization initiative was discussed. Conclusions from the survey: there is a lack of understanding of internationalization among out students, a majority of students have passports and indicate they are interest in international topics. Faculty are interested in

internationalization and traveling to other areas. Maybe we need to look at additional global/international options being added to our curriculum. We have made tremendous strides from ten years ago. The deans were asked to share the results with faculty.

b) Prime Mover – A New Delivery Model

Action: The article basically discusses how Hao Liu is providing classes in China with American faculty in the summer. Cindy Elliott was asked to contact the person named in the article and provide the Provost with more information.

c) More Competition

Action: This is another approach to the competition of distance learning and our Virtual College.

**3. Decision Items**

a) Calendar Issues

Action: Dr. Linn and the Council are looking at a deadline of Friday for the submission of midterm grades instead of the following Monday. This is due to the change in the spring semester starting after the Martin Luther King holiday. The Council agreed to leave the midterm deadline on Monday even though it falls on the Monday of Spring and Fall break. Finals week will count as the 8<sup>th</sup> week of the total 16 week semester instead of the week of spring/fall break.

The Provost would like to start the intersession on December 26 unless there are compelling or legal reasons not to do so. Dennis King was asked to speak with the Student Affairs personnel about this decision.

b) Faculty Awards

Action: The Council reviewed the applicants and selected the three recipients.

c) MOOC's and COCAO

Action: The Council discussed the issue of MOOC's

**4. Informational Items**

a) Distance Education Data from Kansas Higher Education Data Systems KHEDS

Action: This is the information that is available on the Regents website.

b) IncludED: Disruptive Innovation for Course Development

Action: The Bookstore Personnel has met with Larry about this initiative. It fits into the Red Balloon project as new tools.

c) Centralizing One Education

Action: This item is background context for things that may or may not materialize at the Regents level. Other states are looking at centralizing distance education.

d) Death of the Degree

Action: A degree is not going away but some of the items are going away.

## **5. *What Should We Know?***

### a) Cable Green Presentation on Campus

Action: Just a reminder that Cable Green will be on campus on April 11 to talk about creative commons.

### b) Kansas Core Outcomes Group

Action: Just a reminder of the meeting on September 27.

## New Business

a) Intersession 2013. The Provost asked the deans to consider the number of courses we propose and type of courses we have done in the past. We need to include study abroad classes if possible. The deans were asked to begin thinking of courses for next intersession. Dr. Gould is limiting the number between 10 to 12 course offering for 2013.

b) The Provost is meeting with CTELT to remove the moratorium from course development. The process has been developed and distributed to the Council. There are three phases of the process for all new courses. Susan Zvacek was asked to review the list of faculty who came over in the past year or so wanting to start a course. These will be removed from the list. There are also a few faculty who have not been paid and that will be taken care of by April 9.

### c) Virtual College Expansion

Dennis has created a business model of how we can expand the Virtual College to accommodate the target number of 8500 students. This keeps the same return percentages on our return investment. Mike Barnett indicated these numbers are something he can support. The Council was asked to review the data and provide any feedback to the Provost. Dr. Gould wants to present the model to the President by the end of April. It will be put back on the next agenda.

d) Take a look at this and provide the Provost with names of faculty members that meet the criteria as listed in the Mehaffy email.

e) The Provost has been asked to make a list of action plans that support additional FTE. Go back through the list and provide the provost with the top three FTE positions priorities and one FTE position from the other areas that report to the Provost.

The Provost has given the date of May 1 as the date to submit their merit evaluation sheets to him.

## **B. Adjournment**

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

c: Dr. Edward Hammond

Dr. Tisa Mason

Mr. Larry Getty  
Dr. Joey Linn  
Dr. Emily Breit  
Mr. Kyle Calvin  
Provost's Council Administrative Assistants