

MINUTES
Provost's Council
October 15, 2013

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, October 15 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

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

Guest: President Hammond

A. *Call to Order*

Action: The meeting was called to order.

1. *Strategy Item*

Virtual College Policies and Procedures/Chapter One

Action: Tabled.

2. *Discussion Items*

a) Full time Temporary Faculty Positions

Action: The deans were asked to review the data that was distributed by the President. Once we have specific language, the President will come back to the Council for discussion. The President and Provost are interested in feedback from chairs on how to utilize this flexibility.

Terminal degree assistance: This started out for tenure track faculty and turned into a faculty development outlet. This is not for international faculty. The President agreed to allow faculty to pursue this with outside funds but there is no guarantee of a job once they earn their degree.

The President is waiting on data before moving forward with the expansion plan for the Virtual College. Once we get this information, we can look at it and attempt to make a decision before January 1.

b. Demonstration of Weibo – Vivi Lai

Action: Social media is everywhere. It is being used by the Chinese government, universities and corporations. Since Facebook and Twitter are banned in China, Weibo was created and used as the social media network in China. Lots of universities use it for news such as the University of Michigan to recruit students to the United States. We have an unofficial site but need the President's approval to make it official. We want to show FHSU and our academic programs, partnerships, international students, news

releases, pictures, etc. Dr. Hammond agreed to sign up for the official Weibo site and it will be maintained by Vivi in the Office of Strategic Partnerships for this academic year.

c) Emergency withdrawal Policy

Action: This policy has been revised to provide the Vice President for Student Affairs the authority to change a student's grade at their discretion without input from the Division of Academic Affairs. The Council agreed the policy should state "allow" instead of encourage. The policy will give the Office of Student Affairs the authority to dismiss the student from the University, if the student doesn't want to voluntarily withdraw. The deans had concerns about the entire policy and asked the Provost to take it back to ISM for further discussion. It was suggested having someone from Academic Affairs on the Medical Withdrawal Committee.

d) Credit Hour Definition, Compliance and Review Policy

Action: The Council agreed to not change the definition of the policy at this point. Competency based education is coming up and at some point we may need to change it, but not right now. Dr. Evans was asked to let Dean Bannister know the result of this discussion.

e) Criteria for Chair appointments

Action: There were three issues that came up from the feedback. 1) Maybe SCH should be used instead of majors. SCH may be more accurate; 2) How do you deal with research/laboratories and workload that is associated with that (hard sciences and fine arts); and 3) Scholarship and fine arts unique schedules. The Council agreed to identify six core items and leave it up to the deans to work with chairs to make a compelling argument to the Provost to negotiate a larger salary. Dr. Crawford will start with the original six core items with a generic statement about additional considerations maybe applicable. Parameters need to be set about the definition of programs. Chris Crawford will write up the policy in its final form and bring it back to the Provost's Council.

f) "Nudge" Technologies - Starfish

Action: It is a unique insight and there are a number of technologies out there that are nudge technologies. It is important to note there are both positive and negative ways to approach these technologies.

g) Talal Abu-Ghazaleh University Agreement

Action: This is a company in Jordan that we recently signed an MOU agreement to market graduate degrees, undergraduate degrees and all graduate certificates. They are marketing the MPS, informatics, public health administration at the graduate level and at the bachelor's level - tourism, philosophy, political science and two other programs.

h) Graduation rate for 2012

Action: This data comes from the U.S. News and World Report. FHSU is being held to the actual graduation rate not the projected rate. We should be held to compete with the same classification. The public at large, Regent nor Legislators are not looking at this analysis. FHSU is rated in Tier II for all assessments.

i) Action Plans

Action: Action plans are due today to the Provost.

j) Intersession Courses/Title IV

Action: Dennis had a discussion with Judy Getty about her concerns in cancelling courses after the preparation for no reason. Procedurally, the chairs will be required to submit the courses to the Registrar's Office and contracts will be processed for faculty who teach the courses. There will be no financial aid offered to students this intersession. There is an intersession website but not on TigerEnroll. It is a controlled number of courses at this point. There are 13 courses in the system right now. Teacher evaluations will be done this time. Dennis and Chris are going to close all of the loose ends.

k) Course-Size Accreditation

Action: In the accreditation world, course size is becoming a hot topic. StraighterLine and MOOC's are examples of what we do to ensure course size falls within the perimeters for accreditation.

2. Informational Items

a) College Should Yield Graduates Who Think and Write: Poll Finds

Action: These traits are being looked at by employers not just training.

b) FHSU internationalization students

Action: These are the countries where our students are from. We hope to diversify our student enrollment.

c) The Virtual Plaza

Action: This is more as an informational item.

d) Regents Enrollment data.

Action: This has been shared with the President. We have the highest enrollment of graduate students this semester.

e) New Online Teaching Jobs and Instructor Positions

Action: This is a site chairs can advertise and we may be able to find people to teach courses for us.

What Should We Know Today?

- 1) Presentation on Affordable Care Act this afternoon at 3:30 pm.
- 2) Waiting List is live and running. There will be another email sent out about it.
- 3) The Systems Portfolio is coming together and will be ready to go by the end of October.
- 4) Tk20 was put into place last year but has taken 6 months to get it up and running. It is a new database in the College of Education and Technology that will make accreditation a lot easier.
- 5) Implemented pilot for eBooks this semester in the library and invested in technology to stream it into Blackboard. Most of the library will be automated next semester.
- 6) MOOC is starting tomorrow with enrollment of 560. No enrollment for FHSU.
- 7) Dr. Gould announced his resignation as provost. He will be taking some time off to reassess his career and personal life. He thanked everyone on the Council for all of their support over the past 13 years.

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. Stephen Donnelly
- Mr. Chris Roberts
- Provost's Council Administrative Assistants