

MINUTES
Provost's Council
September 17, 2013

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, September 17, 2013 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, Shala Mills, John Ross, Rob Scott, and Larry Gould

A. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order.

1. Strategy Items

a) Post Tenure Review

Action: Dr. Faber believes we are still on track for completion and it should be ready to present to Faculty Senate by November.

b) Certificates

Action: The Provost wants to formalize a process for approving certificates. Right now, departments will arbitrarily change and approve certificate programs. There is no system in place to track certificates; therefore, it has been difficult to keep them current in the University Catalog. There is an established certificate approval process for graduate programs but not for undergraduate programs. Dr. Briggs pointed out that most students don't even realize they have a certificate until they "stumble" across it after completing the required classes. In order to make this approval certificate process work, we need to clean up our current list of certificates: keep only those that have "employable" qualities. Other considerations for this process: discuss with NCK; graduate certificates are being grossly underutilized; and financial aid implications of getting a certificate. This certificate issue will be readdressed in 5-6 months.

2. Discussion Items

c) Terms in the University Catalog.

Action: Dr. Gould wants to remove the term "emphasis/area of emphasis" and replace it with concentration. There is only one policy statement that regulates terminology and the word "concentration" is acceptable terminology to represent "emphasis." Dr. Briggs suggested we go back through our current degrees and make sure they all conform to the definition of "concentration." This issue will be addressed again in Provost's Council once the deans have time to review their degrees.

d) MHEC Research Brief

Action: This will be our establish inventories. Dr. Gould prefers to use the predicted or expected graduate rate rather than actual graduate rate.

e) Achieving "The Big Goal" in Utah

Action: This is an informational item. Dennis will pass this on to Brad Goebel.

f) Growth in International Applications to American Graduate Schools Slows

Action: We have just hit the 20th day numbers. Out of all the graduate degrees, the only one that has seen an increase is the Master of Professional Studies (MPS). Dr. Faber has scheduled appointments to have further discussions about MLS and MPS degrees. Right now, we only have two enrolled in the Professional Science Master's degree. Dr. Crowley said we may have the market for it, but we just don't have funding (and instructors) for it to succeed at this point. Kansas State University now has the PSM program as well.

h) Stem Related Disciplines

Action: We are locked in our current position. However, we cannot follow all areas: geosciences, chemistry, math and computer science, physics and biology.

i) College Leaders Strive for Performance Measures that Fit Their Institutions

Action: This article provides an overview of the performance indicators that can measure institutional success. The five metrics include: program-completion rates, institutional cost per degree, employment outcomes for graduates, learning outcomes at the program level, students' progress and repayment and default rates on student loans. The Provost reassured us that we are not the only institution that needs to establish a process.

k) Input on KBOR Academic Advising Document

Action: The last paragraph of the document is the most important. It highlights the new policy for the Regents.

m) Online Learning Drivers

Action: Overall, do these principles make sense for FHSU? Dennis is going to have the Virtual College Advisory Committee look over these principles. Dennis will let the Provost's Council know the decision of the committee.

3. Decision Item

a) First Principles for Chairs

Action: Chris sees the standard criteria for evaluating department chairs as ineffective. He notes that some department chairs feel they are not treated fairly, either because of their workload or their amount of additional responsibilities. In a nutshell, the simplistic evaluation process is not working. Chris suggests that we add an international component or create a separate evaluation chart for each college. He suggests the deans submit departments that would be applicable for this revised evaluation process. Chris' evaluation chart will be discussed with the chairs through the deans. The deans would like the department chairs' input on the process before they look at it further. It was suggested that the dollar amount increases be left off of the chart when presented to chairs.

4. What Should We Know Today?

a) Dr. Briggs informed the Council there will be an "Impact of Affordable Health Care Act" presentation on October 15, at 3:30 pm, in the Ballroom.

b) The Institute of Applied Technology for \$144,000.

c) The OER application form has been pos September 23. The total number of submissions was 22.

d) Dr. Crawford indicated our Performance Agreement should be approved by KBOR.

B. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:15 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