

Minutes

Provost's Council
February 12, 2007

The Provost's Council met on February 12 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room.

Members present: Jeff Briggs, Chris Crawford, Mary Meier for Cindy Elliott, Paul Faber, Dennis King, Debbie Mercer, John Ross, Steve Trout, Steve Williams and Larry Gould

Guests: Richard Lisichenko, Carol Patrick, and Art Morin

Call to Order

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

1. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Implementation of the Classroom Teaching Evaluation Instrument

Action: Dr. Lisichenko updated the Council. The plan is for the Faculty Senate to host a forum in April or May and present 3 or 4 evaluation instruments. The faculty will then choose an instrument and vote on which one will be used for a pilot.

Departments who want to participate in the pilot would be invited to do so for the next year. The TEVAL instrument would continue to be used during the year-long pilot. The Council and Provost Gould expressed frustration with the lack of movement with a new teaching evaluation instrument. There are continuing complaints and concerns that are raised during promotion and tenure hearings.

2. Decision Making Item

English Language Requirements for Graduate School

Action: Dr. Trout will draft another revision stating that conditions for the waiver of the English language requirement may apply and that the graduate dean and the department chair will consult in the establishment of such conditions. Dr. Trout will bring back the revision to the next Council meeting.

3. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Best Practices When Proposing and Teaching 600-Level Courses

Action: The Graduate Council approved this document and it needs to be distributed to all faculty. A slight modification will be made in item #III. The word "always" will be stricken. It was suggested that the document be included in the course approval process and also be included on the Graduate School website and the Virtual College website as part of the course development process. Dr. Gould wants a chat room on the Virtual College website for adjunct faculty so that things like this can be brought to their attention. Dr. Trout will provide an electronic copy to Dennis King and the college deans for inclusion on the Virtual College website and the college Blackboard sites.

4. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Indicating MLS concentrations on diplomas

Action: International students from our partner schools have requested that their areas of concentration for their MLS degrees be listed on their diplomas. In China, the actual diploma is a more important document than the transcript. JoAnn Crispin is willing to take on the extra work to accommodate the students. The name of the concentration could not duplicate the name of the actual major.

Dr. Williams opposed doing this because of the potential impact upon AACSB accreditation and distributed a communication from AACSB listing the degree programs that will be included as well as excluded from the accreditation review. Dr. Faber also wanted to discuss this with the department chairs before making a final decision. We will discuss this at the next meeting. Dennis King also noted that the partnership students want to take their diplomas with them when they leave the U.S. rather than have them mailed to the partner school in bulk.

5. Discussion/Deliberation Item

TigerEnroll

Action: Dennis King said with the new TigerEnroll, adds and drops will move online in the fall semester. A problem occurs when students try to swap classes. Financial aid enters in when a class is dropped before another class can be added. Other institutions waive the advisor's approval. Dr. Gould advised Dennis to take it back to the committee and bring a proposal forward to Provost's Council.

6. Information Item

Turkey, Germany to plan long-awaited university

Action: Dr. Gould distributed this news item and asked Mary to take this back to Cindy Elliott. He also noted that our summer program in Turkey is moving forward, and either he and/or Cindy Elliott will be making a trip to Turkey to visit with the students over there.

7. Information Item

Cindy Elliott has been trying to make a connection with Yum Foods and Starbucks to get them involved with TimesTalk. No commitment has been made as of yet.

8. Information Item

The SRPs on Sunday were the largest in years in Garden City and Dodge City. Two-thirds of those in attendance were Hispanic. Fabio Pinilla and Kelsey Kennedy from Admissions are doing an excellent job of working to recruit Hispanic students. Over one hundred fifty people have visited the new Higher Education Opportunity Center at Garden City since its doors opened a week or so ago! FHSU now has a physical presence there, and people are taking advantage of it.

The deans expressed a need for more AAOG scholarship funds and also noted that the new designation of the “Copper Award” identifies the ACT score of those recipients which may not be appropriate.

9. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Creating a new MLS concentration in International Educational Management

Action: An international and an international component needs to be included in the concentration. Drs. Morin and Trout will move forward to formalize this concentration.

10. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies

Action: Dr. Gould asked the deans to review this program and give it some consideration. Tim Davies in Social Work is a graduate of North Central University.

11. Decision Making Item

Internal Student Employees

Action: Todd Powell asked that this be distributed to departments. We must contact Simone Werth in the Financial Assistance Office to make sure that student employees have a valid social security number before they are hired.

12. Decision Making Item

Accreditation Report for Regents

Action: Chris Crawford will make the changes submitted by the deans and will send an electronic version back so they can give it a final review. The report is due to the Regents on Thursday, February 15.

13. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Commencement Issues

Action: Some faculty have expressed a desire to be able to meet with their students after graduation and have a designated space available. The deans will take this back to the chairs to see if there is an interest and inform Dr. Gould. If there is enough interest, the Provost’s Office can designate a meeting place.

Dr. Gould also asked the deans and chairs to remind faculty that there is an expectation that faculty **will attend** commencement. See Chapter 4 of the Faculty and Unclassified Staff Handbook.

The Commencement Committee is discussing assessment of a \$50 regalia fee to students. This would cover the cost of a disposable commencement gown. The Committee also wants input on having a single color for the masters hoods and black and gold tassels for all students rather than the traditional color associated with the major. Joey Linn and some of his staff will make a presentation to President’s Cabinet and the Committee is seeking input from the Provost’s Council because these recommendations involve academic tradition.

After discussion, Provost's Council agreed to support the black and gold swirled tassel, and they will postpone any other recommendations until after the Cabinet presentation. Dr. Trout will discuss the issue of the masters hoods with the Graduate Council.

14. Discussion/Deliberation Item

Bookstore Ordering

Action: Dr. Gould asked the deans to review this e-mail, and it will provide insight into the problems with ordering textbooks. Dennis King can provide additional information.

15. Information Item

Dr. Gould announced that face-to-face off-campus courses and IPTV courses are canceled for tonight. The road conditions in the Garden City and Dodge City areas are not good.

16. Discussion/Deliberation Item

ESU and Efficiency

Action: Emporia State University claims they are the leader in off-campus education in the State of Kansas which is incorrect. About 17 percent of their overall production is through off-campus courses. Dennis King will develop a similar scorecard for the Virtual College that we can distribute to constituents and prospective students.

17. Information Item

The tablet priority listings and computer lab reports are due. If there are no changes, send an e-mail to Dr. Gould indicating that. If there are labs that are listed that no longer exist, cross them off.

Adjournment

Action: The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond
Dr. Herb Songer
Mr. Larry Getty
Dr. Joey Linn
Dr. Richard Lisichenko
Mr. Drew Thomas
Ms. Casey Rackaway
Provost's Council Secretaries