

Minutes

Provost's Council
September 18, 2007

The Provost's Council met on September 18, 2007 at 8:30 a.m. in the President's Conference Room, Sheridan Hall 306.

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

A. Call to Order

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

1. Strategy Items

Eduventures Report – Online Bachelor's Degree

Action: The College of Arts and Sciences would like to pursue all of the degrees listed in the report but the two questions are: Can we do it with our budget allocation? And, who will teach the courses? We do not have excess faculty available to teach the courses. It was suggested preparing a business plan/strategic plan for the degrees the College of Arts and Sciences would like to pursue. The provost suggested having a session to discuss preparing a document to send to the president about the reorganizing of the University and determine the standards by which new faculty, new support staff and OOE will be added to a program to increase the number of majors in the program. We also need standards for academic advising. It was put on the agenda to remind the Council that Eduventures is our "online" institutional research office and is available for their use.

2. Discussion/Deliberation Items

a) Classroom Courtesy Guidelines

Action: The Council decided to ask their chairs for input on creating a similar policy for FHSU. Send responses to Cindy Cline for the guidelines document.

b) Summer 2008 Allocations

Action: Tabled until completion of document by the provost. Whatever college allocations were last summer, the deans can count on at least that much for summer 2008. There will be \$492,500 available for spring 2007 courses.

c) Virtual College Graduation Breakfast or Reception the Night Before?

Action: It was agreed to keep the Virtual College Graduation Gathering as a breakfast on Saturday at 7:30 a.m. but host it at the Robbins Center.

d) College Survey Services

Action: This is one source for norm-referenced evaluations that was discovered by Dr. Richard Lisichenko. The University is now looking into a new instrument for evaluation instead of TEVAL. However, there is not much research done on this

particular instrument. There are concerns about the Computing Center being able to create a home-grown instrument due to the many projects they are currently working on. We also need to establish a systematic evaluation instrument for Virtual College students. The provost would like to eventually have CTELT administer the evaluation system instead of the Computing Center. Dennis was instructed to begin working on this initiative and prepare a proposal to present to Faculty Senate. The current faculty senate president will be included in working on this initiative.

e) The Epsilon Environment

Action: The New York Times has a partnership with this organization to host their learning experiences. It can be used as a learning management tool and is currently free. The owner is willing to come out to campus to determine any other uses we may have for this organization. Dr. Faber will invite the members of the Council to the site to put up their own profile on the site.

f) Amend Policy Manual to Include a Statement on Teaching Evaluation

Action: This is a reiteration of a policy related to evaluation of teaching at state universities. It also emphasizes the importance of this statement to the Regents and that the evaluations are norm-referenced.

g) International Students Verification of Admission to a Degree-Seeking Program – Tim Crowley

Action: A decision was made on this at the last meeting. A policy will be sent to IEMG for review.

h) International Students on Campus Who Are Unable to Stay in Status Because Graduate Programs are Migrating to a 100 percent Virtual College Offerings – Tim Crowley

Action: As a reminder, international students can only take one virtual college course to maintain their status at the University. It is not a huge issue right now but as more international students come to campus, course availability will become less.

i) Barnes and Noble Results for Fort Hays State University

Action: This was an informational item.

j) Possible Addition to FHSU Website

Action: The provost does not require an answer today but it is something for the deans to think about. Would it be worthwhile to put up a summer session website? The provost will put it back on the agenda for a decision.

3. Informational Items

a) Distribution of Tilford Conference Brochures

Action: The brochures were distributed to each academic dean for their faculty members. Details on the conference are in the brochure and an email was sent out by the provost.

b) Sociology Student Survey 2007 Report

Action: An informational item for the Council.

B. YOTD: Progress Report

Action: No action taken.

C. Strategic Planning and AQIP: An Update

Action: No action taken.

D. Announcements/New Business

1. Dennis King will be visiting departments to discuss the revised course development process.

2. We have an opportunity to bring Suzanne Greenwald from Eduventures to campus. The provost would like to use the November and December PC dates to invite her to campus. It was suggested having a session of the basic overview of what Eduventures is and a more detailed overview of their services to the Provost's Council. The deans were asked to provide a list of people to invite to the sessions. The agenda will be for Suzanne to meet with the Provost's Council in the morning and have lunch for the chairs/directors with a session in the afternoon.

E. Adjournment

Action: The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

c: Dr. Edward Hammond
Dr. Herb Songer
Mr. Larry Getty
Dr. Joey Linn
Dr. Dan Kulmala
Ms. Chelsey Gillogly
Ms. Casey Rackaway
Provost's Council Secretaries