

DEANS' COUNCIL

MINUTES

January 13, 2009

Present: Dan Burcham, Don Flickinger, Don Green, Ellen Haneline, Michelle Johnston, Matt Klein, Ian Mathison, Leah Monger, Dave Nicol, Nancy Peterson-Klein, Bill Potter, and Robbie Teahen.

Guests: Mike Cairns, Mike Cooper, Reinhold Hill, and Kristen Salomonson

HLC Site Visit

Dan Burcham announced to the Deans' Council the Higher Learning Commission site visit is scheduled for April 18–20, 2011.

Friends of Ferris

The Friends of Ferris event is scheduled for February 20, 2009. More information will be sent to everyone in the near future.

Annual Planning

Reinhold distributed copies of the College of Arts & Sciences annual planning documents. He discussed their timeline, their goals and initiatives as of Fall, 2008. He also reviewed the Department Planning Alignment Template that is used in their college.

Scholarships

Kristen Salomonsen distributed copies of scholarship changes that are effective Fall 2009. They reviewed the current scholarship structure, and made changes that will be of benefit to students, including transfer students. She also reviewed the new international scholarship that will be available to international students attending Ferris. The deans requested this information be shared at the next Chairs' Council. Reinhold Hill will be sure to include this on the agenda for that meeting.

Announcements

Dan Burcham reported on the latest faculty contract maintenance meeting.

Dan talked about a recruitment initiative with the College of Engineering Technology.

Dan also reported on the admits versus the applications for next year. He said the offers are up by 177 for next fall.

HLC

Mike Cairns and Mike Cooper gave an update on the HLC activities. They reviewed the timeline for this project. They expect the first draft to be completed by August, 2009. During 2010, this will be reviewed by everyone in the campus community.

They talked about the progress of the listening sessions that are being held to discuss the 5 Criteria for the Self-Study. Even though the attendance has been rather small at these open sessions, the feedback received has been very good and very thoughtful.

The Deans' Council then reviewed Criterion 1 and Criterion 2 to provide their input for these two areas of the Self-Study. At the next Deans' Council they will review Criteria 3 and Criteria 4.

Robbie Teahen requested that if a college provides data to a criterion committee, that they please copy Mo Milzarski so this information can be included in the database. Deans requested that when the HLC committees are asking for information needed for the self-study that they consider lead time in their request. The colleges need more than 24-hour notice to provide some of the information that has been requested of them. Robbie said that this is something they can address at this afternoon's Steering Committee Meeting.

Sabbatical Leave

Don Flickinger said the Sabbatical Leave Committee will meet next week to make their recommendations to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Academic Calendar

Don Flickinger distributed a "Draft" copy of the proposed academic calendars to everyone present. This is going to the President's Council for their review, and will then be sent to the Board of Trustees for their approval.

Cancel Classes

We need to continue to monitor how classes are meeting to insure they are meeting the required class time. Are they meeting during finals week? This can be done at the department level. One college follows up with faculty on their room schedule for finals week. This might be a possible follow up process others can use.

Online Education Providers

Robbie talked about the waiting list they had for online classes for Spring Semester, 2009. She said approximately 80% of the students on the list were on-campus students. Robbie said this is something to think about before adding additional online classes – are the students who want to register for them on-campus and do they have another option? By adding an online class, it may mean that a regular face-to-face section will be canceled or have lower enrollment.

Roundtable

- Dave Nicol said they have 20 students attending the National Association of Music Industry Management in California.
- Ellen Haneline said they have been accredited for the Sonography program. They have also been notified that their accreditation for Nuclear Medicine has been approved.
- Ellen is working with Don Green on a potential new program for Molecular Diagnostics in Grand Rapids. They have been approached by the industry to provide this as there is growth potential in the Grand Rapids for this type of program.
- Leah Monger reported they have two new faculty in FLITE, and they will have a third new faculty starting soon.
- Neumann-Smith has been selected as the architectural firm for the new Optometry Building. Nancy Peterson-Klein said the meetings with them are very positive.
- Bill Potter announced that Rick and Becky Kowalkoski's retirement reception is this Friday from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in RC-CDR.
- Michelle Johnston said they have started their second cohort in the Pro-Mo-Ted (Professional Modularized Teacher Education – an undergraduate modular program for vocational education teachers who are not certified.)
- Robbie Teahen asked the deans to please send to her any articles for the Academic Affairs newsletter by the end of January, 2009. She also said the work is proceeding with developing the Community College Leadership Doctorate.
- Matt Klein distributed copies of the College of Arts & Sciences newsletter to everyone present.
- Ian Mathison said the discussions are continuing with Michigan State University Grand Rapids Medical School for building space.
- Don Flickinger reported the General Education process will be presented to the Academic Senate at the meeting this morning.

Meeting adjourned 10:00 a.m.

Maureen Milzarski