

DEANS' COUNCIL

Tuesday, December 8, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Present: Dave Nicol, Don Flickinger, Ellen Haneline, Fritz Erickson, Greg Wellman for Ian Mathison, Cheryl Cluchey for Don Green, Leah Monger, Matt Klein, Michelle Johnston, Robbie Teahen, Tom Oldfield, Bill Potter, Mike Cron

Guests: Ron McKean, Associate Dean, College of Engineering Technology, Tom Crandell, Director, Corporate & Professional Development, Arn McIntyre, Energy Center Coordinator, and David Marian, Associate Professor of Management

Honorarium Pay (Employees and Non-Employees) Stipend/Additional Comp – Fritz Erickson

Action: Plan on discussing this topic at a future Deans' Council – should the amount of pay for administrative staff's honorarium/additional compensation be standardized across the division?

2010 Michigan Energy Conference – Ron McKean, Arn McIntyre, Tom Crandell, David Marian

The third annual Michigan Energy Conference will be on April 7 and 8, 2010, and participation by FSU is highly encouraged. Ron, Arn, and David each presented an overview of certain aspects of the conference. Ron gave an overview of the conference and encouraged participation by faculty and colleges. Arn's discussion included the focus of the conference, as well as the breadth and depth of the call for academic, governmental and professional presentations to educators and industries. David discussed the student poster competition, which will also include local high school students this year.

Action: Refer all who are interested in participating in the Energy Conference to their Website www.ferris.edu/energy and encourage participation.

Action: Contact David Marian or Jennifer Johnson regarding involvement by students in the poster competition, assistance in providing funding for awards/scholarships and faculty members who are interested in judging the poster competition.

Student Complaint Tracking Discussion Continuation – Robbie Teahen (handouts)

Robbie Teahen discussed student complaint tracking. She distributed copies of both the template used in Allied Health Sciences as well as the policy, procedures, and form from Student Affairs. Previously she had distributed the federal compliance information specifying the parameters for this requirement. She said that we should work toward a common reporting format and shared policy, so that the University has a unified approach to this tracking requirement. She invited volunteers to work with her to develop a proposed Academic Affairs policy and procedures for meeting this requirement. In the meantime, Colleges have been requested to be "tracking" student complaints and how they are being handled so that analyses can be conducted regularly.

Ellen Haneline and Tom Oldfield offered to work with Robbie on development of a complaint process for Academic Affairs.

Action: Continue to track student complaints and how they are being handled.

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Transfer Policy and HLC Policies/Guidelines as related to Federal Compliance Requirements

Robbie Teahen (handouts)

Previously the Deans' Council had received a multi-page handout that summarizes the HLC expectations for good practice in transfer of credit as well as their policy requirements. Robbie's research in preparing our federal compliance response has revealed several inconsistencies. Time did not allow full discussion, so this item will be brought back for a future meeting.

Summer Semester

Discussion began on summer semester (due to time constraints, this topic will be discussed at the next Deans' Council planning session).

“DegreeWorks” Discussion

- Discussion point 1: How many digits should be visible when displaying students' GPA - all versus rounding to 3rd digit? General consensus: show all digits.
- Discussion point 2: Putting students into the system – include new freshmen and transfers or all students? General consensus: include all students.
- Discussion point 3: Support for programming – Deans have heard some comments expressing concern regarding support for the programmer. Don Flickinger will bring more information back as he learns it.

“Ferris Magazine” – (item tabled due to time constraints)

Negotiations Update – Don Flickinger

Subcommittees are actively meeting.

President's Council Update – Fritz Erickson

- The budget is being discussed (reference President Eisler's memorandums to faculty and staff) and the challenges for Michigan in this area.
- Distribution of a policy regarding mobile devices (e.g., Blackberry) is planned after January 2010.
- Committees including SPARC and Diversity/Inclusion are actively meeting.

On-Line Discussion – Fritz Erickson

Colleges should proceed with normal scheduling including online courses. Review class size and make changes as the colleges deem appropriate.

Respectfully submitted by Robin Hoisington