

Academic Leadership Council

Minutes

February 13, 2018

I. Meeting opened by Trnidy Williams, ALC Chair

- A. January 9, 2018 minutes were reviewed and accepted with no changes.

II. Cheryl Cluchey, Associate Dean Extended and International Operations, and other EIO leaders

- A. Extended and International Operations student engagement activities
 - 1. Cheryl provided an overview on EIO's relationship with ALC and Ferris and locations across the state; 23 locations offering 51 undergrad and grad programs with 2629 students represented. Many of their physical locations are within community colleges.
 - a. There are 9 directors and coordinators. 3 came today to speak of their unique locations. Each gave very uplifting/encouraging examples of students whose careers (and lives) have been changed as a result of their Ferris degrees.
 - 2. Justin Faris, from Lansing location, shared his role and reported on recruitment and admission efforts, local and EIO collaborations
 - a. Students are the main reason for wanting off campus classes is economic. They can stay in their local homes/jobs to work toward their degrees.
 - b. Off campus locations do not just promote degrees offered at their location. They also work closely with FSU and refer to students to other locations. Students need support regardless of location.
 - 3. Debbra Curtiss, from Traverse City, elaborated on local EIO activities and internal collaborations.
 - a. TC is a full service location. Their students take advantage of consortium agreements.
 - b. Work well with Ferris on offering flexibility in course scheduling to fit the needs of their student base.
 - c. There is extensive internal and external engagement activities.
 - i. Work with other university partners in TC. Serve on advisory boards. Partner with Chamber, Economic Development office, promote outreach to area high schools. Host joint commencement ceremonies. Hold collaborative meetings between FSU and community college to new programming ideas.
 - ii. They provide training for advisory processes, assist with adjunct faculty postings, faculty orientation, Blackboard training, etc.
 - 4. Tracy Hilty, from Grand Rapids,
 - a. GR celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Applied Technology Center several years ago. Video of ATC grads highlighted the diversity of programs represented.
 - b. GR is proud of their graduates, many of whom would not be FSU grads if not for the off-site locations we offer.
- B. Additional engagement activities could include attending career events.
- C. Suggestion made to make contact information clear for programs so students can reach out to the correct person. Updated contact sheets would be appreciated.

- D. The video advising system is used and liked by students.
- E. Amy Buse shared that MyDegree is challenged by off campus students – it does not work well for them. But MyDegree is working out a process to avoid constant equivalencies.

III. Office of International Education (OIE)

- A. Conversation with Academic Leadership Council: A Panel Discussion with the Rhein-Waal University Delegation
 - a. Dr. Heide Naderer is the 2nd president of the newly formed (9 yrs old) university. She is also the 2nd president to visit Ferris.
 - b. Dr. Philip Schorn, Assoc. Dean of College of Society and Economics and Accounting faculty who was instrumental in building a double degree program between his college and our COB. This will be his 5th visit to Ferris.
 - c. Dr. Joost Kleuters Director of the International office in Rhein-Waal. This will be his second visit to Ferris.
- B. Lisa vonReichbauer gave brief overview of our collaboration efforts and then facilitated a Q&A session. Questions posed regarding
 - 1. Why pursue this initiative?
 - a. Will enlarge quality of academic programs embracing a high academic approach. The US approach to teaching and advising is very different from the German approach, so faculty as well as student exchange encouraged.
 - 2. Where do you see higher education in Germany in 10 years?
 - a. More competition between German universities with more of a division between research-based and non-research-based universities. Initiative now is to support research. Challenge will be to secure funding if focus changes to research.
 - 3. How does academic freedom play out in Germany and what role do students play?
 - a. Right to academic freedom is a constitutional right and cannot be eroded. But every right must be cherished and comes with obligations.
 - 4. What are some of the lessons learned over the 5 year development of this collaboration?
 - a. There is significant inertia in higher education. It took 4 years to reach an agreement. While globalization is unstoppable, higher ed can be immovable.
 - b. Many challenges working with international students.
 - c. It was important to get the right players on the team for support and learning to be innovative in thinking process was imperative.
 - 5. Explain the Bologna Process
 - a. Agreement between European countries to guarantee comparable quality of education. Harmonizes higher education. The Erasmus program ensures funding for study abroad and internships abroad. Very successful in helping students become global citizens. Somewhat similar to our Fulbright program.
 - 6. Questions from ALC audience:
 - a. How has the town adapted to foreign students?
 - i. Town with population of 50,000 was very welcoming, completely peaceful, with city being very supportive. Visiting team would be happy to show Ferris contingency around.

- b. How do numbers of women in higher ed compare to U.S.?
 - i. 12% of presidents are women, almost no deans. 50% of freshmen students are female with the number dropping to 10% in post-Ph.D. Must have 5 years of experience outside the university before becoming a professor, which is not true of research-based universities.
 - c. Question as to how a no-tuition German university and Ferris can blend?
 - i. Our students pay our tuition before traveling. There is a credit equivalency.
 - ii. Some foreign countries give our students scholarships or credit exchanges.
 - iii. We have fewer students studying abroad due to this imbalance.
7. Rhein-Waal extended invitation for future visits.

IV. Trinity Williams, ALC Chair

- A. The ALC Chair election process
 - a. ALC does not have a formal election process. Recommendation was made to form a committee to research and develop possible solutions. Wendy Samuels, Amy Buse, Sue Owens and Trinity Williams agreed to serve on the committee. They will present findings at a future ALC meeting.

V. Announcements – none

Next Academic Leadership Council meeting is March 13, 2018 at the WCCC

Next Combined Deans' Council/Academic Leadership Council meeting is March 8, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 in UC 202 AB

Minutes submitted by
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CAS Secretary III

Statement of Purpose: The Academic Leadership Council will promote collaboration in the Division of Academic Affairs; provide a forum for the development, exchange, and promotion of ideas and best practices; and discuss the implementation of policies presented by the Deans' Council and Division of Academic Affairs that impact processes and procedures.