The Council of Deans met in regular session at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, July 29, 2015. Steve Runge presided, and the following members were present: Jonathan Glenn, Michael Hargis, Vicki Groves-Scott, Kurt Boniecki, Stephanie Bellar, Jimmy Ishee, Terry Wright, Steve Addison and Laura Young. Clay Arnold attended in the absence of Maurice Lee. Jane Ann Williams joined the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

1) The CoD minutes of July 15, 2015 and July 22, 2015 were approved by a vote of 10-0. C. Arnold abstained due to having not been present at the July 15th or July 22nd meetings.

2) S. Runge led a discussion regarding the SPSS software and possible alternative packages. Faculty feedback has been previously requested regarding the current use of the software in an effort to ensure that the university is utilizing the most economically efficient product that adequately serves faculty and student needs. Discussion followed regarding SPSS and other comparable products. S. Addison and M. Hargis agreed to form and lead a committee of current SPSS users in evaluating SPSS and researching other product options. The committee will then make a formal recommendation.

3) S. Runge shared with council members copies of the draft Academic Affairs portion of the SPARC Action Items Progress Report. Discussion followed. Council members are asked to review the draft responses and direct any comments or questions to the Provost’s office by next week.

4) S. Runge led a discussion regarding the space/building needs and priorities for Academic Affairs as identified at the 2015 CoD retreat and previously discussed at the July 15th CoD meeting. The most prevalent needs were identified as listed below, but not in order of priority:

- Nursing space/building
- Performing Arts space/building
- Computer Science space
- Mashburn space/renovation
- Institute for Wellness & Restorative Health building
- Communication Sciences & Disorders space
- Chemistry space
- Business space
- Art space
- Irby renovation/clean-up

Discussion followed regarding the extent of these needs and the possible ways of addressing them. Council members are asked to give thought on how to best prioritize the list and the discussion will resume at the August 5th CoD meeting.
5) Provost’s announcements:

- The 2015-2016 Academic Timetable and the Opening Session schedule were posted on the Academic Affairs website.
- The deadline for submitting Annual Reports have been revised as follows:
  - September 1 (Dean)
  - October 1 (Provost)
- A meeting took place last week regarding graduation checkout and faculty advising. The deadline for applying for graduation during the 2015-2016 academic year has been discussed as follows:
  - September 1, 2015 (for graduation in December 2015, May 2016 or August 2016).
  - The deadlines for applying for graduation for the 2016-2017 academic year and all subsequent academic years will be 12-months prior to the intended semester of graduation. Examples as follows:
    - May 1, 2016 (for May 2017 graduation)
    - August 1, 2016 (for August 2017 graduation)
    - December 1, 2016 (for December 2017 graduation)
- Starting with the May 2016 graduating class, all graduation audits will be conducted by the Academic Advising Center.
- Concurrent enrollment orientation took place this past Monday and was attended by on-campus coordinators and area high school teachers. The Faculty Senate is expected to be giving continued consideration to our concurrent enrollment program during the upcoming academic year.
- An Executive Staff retreat was held yesterday. Among the topics of discussion at the retreat were:
  - Advertising and marketing: The firm of Eric, Rob and Isaac presented at the retreat and will present to CoD in the near future.
  - FY 2015 planned transfers
  - 2015-2016 goals
  - Innovation and Entrepreneurship; met with consultants (Start-Up Junkie)
- The UCA Board of Trustees will meet on Friday morning at 11:00 a.m. in the Brewer Hegeman conference center.
- The Council of Deans will be introduced at the New Faculty Orientation luncheon scheduled for Thursday, August 13th at 11:30 am in Brewer Hegeman; and a New Faculty reception will be held that evening at Conway Country Club.

6) Member announcements:

- J. Glenn advised council members that he has received notification from ADHE that UCA has been approved to participate in SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements) for the delivery of distance education.
- J. A. Williams advised council members that the Cultural Language and Immersion Camp (CLIC) went well and the attendees are now headed home.
- S. Addison advised council members that he will be presenting on UTeach programs at the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators next Wednesday.
L. Young provided council members with a handout documenting the updated procedures for faculty hiring and provided a brief overview.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.