

Council of Deans
10/8/2014

The Council of Deans met in regular session at 9:10 a.m., Wednesday, October 8, 2014. Steve Runge presided, and the following members were present: Jonathan Glenn, Michael Hargis, Maurice Lee, Diana Pounder, Jane Ann Williams, Jimmy Ishee, Kurt Boniecki, Terry Wright, Steve Addison and Laura Young. Dr. Rick Scott, Dean of the Honors College, was present for agenda item number two.

1. The CoD minutes of September 24, 2014 were approved by a vote of 10-0. S. Bellar abstained due to not being present at the September 24, 2014 meeting.
2. Rick Scott spoke to council members regarding ongoing efforts to revamp Exemplary Studies Programs. A handout was provided outlining changes already implemented as well as the remaining tasks necessary to completely revise the programs. He requested the opportunity to meet with each college's Council of Chairs to discuss updating information provided to students regarding each department's honors programs to work towards more uniformity of criteria across all departments. Council members agreed, and Dr. Scott will be contacting the deans in the near future to schedule these meetings. Discussion followed.

R. Scott informed council members his suggestion that we create a new position to assist with Exemplary Studies and coordinate distinguished external scholarship opportunities for our students. A handout was distributed providing a description of the proposed position. Discussion followed, and R. Scott agreed to send a digital copy of the document to the deans so that it may be shared with their respective college's chairs.

3. Action items of the September 18, 2014, meeting of the Graduate Council were considered. Action items were addressed as follows:

Graduate Council recommendation to approve a) a new concentration of M.A. in English with Medieval and Renaissance Literature emphasis, and b) new courses, ENGL 6337 Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre Internship and ENGL 6336 Texts and Manuscripts. S. Bellar made a motion to approve the recommendation. M. Lee seconded the motion. Discussion followed, including a request by T. Wright for time to discuss the AST Internship course with the Mass Communications Theatre department. The Council of Deans voted to table the motion pending further discussion.

Graduate Council recommendation to approve a) a new course, MUS 5104 Graduate Latin Diction Review, and b) a change in admission requirements for the Master of Music degree. S. Bellar made a motion to approve the recommendation. T. Wright seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The Council of Deans voted unanimously to approve the recommendation.

Graduate Council recommendation to approve a change in the M.S. in Health Science comprehensive examination policy. S. Bellar made a motion to approve the recommendation. J. Ishee seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The Council of Deans voted unanimously to approve the recommendation.

4. S. Runge provided council members with information regarding the Arkansas Rock City Regional FIRST Robotics Competition. Discussion followed, and council members were encouraged to share the information with their respective colleges.
5. S. Runge provided council members with an update on the planned renovations to Harrin Hall. The CFAC Dean's office will move next week into a temporary location in Burdick Hall, and work will begin to renovate the space in Harrin Hall to accommodate the offices of Athletic Academic Advising, Registrar, Veteran's Services and additional offices for the Academic Advising Center. The Academic Advising Center and Financial Aid are currently located in Harrin Hall. Therefore, this renovation will allow Harrin Hall to become a "one-stop shop" for students. The goal for completion of the project is May 15, 2015. Discussion followed.
6. S. Runge advised council members that M. Hargis has agreed to chair the College of Education Dean search committee. The committee will be identified this week, and S. Runge plans to charge the committee next week. A position advertisement will follow.

7. Provost's Announcements

- a. A meeting to discuss the development and implementation of UCA Online will take place on Thursday.
- b. The ECNU Chancellor visited our campus recently and gave a presentation on multiple democracies at the Clinton Center. S. Runge and several members of the CoD and the International Engagement staff attended the event.
- c. Oxford American will be moving off campus except for one office in Thompson Hall.
- d. University email will soon be converted from GroupWise to Gmail. Final preparations for this transition are ongoing.
- e. The Faculty Handbook Committee met last week.
- f. S. Runge and many CoD members and other university officials attended the UCA Scholarship Reception last night. It was a very positive event.
- g. S. Runge, Shelley Mehl, and Peter Mehl attended the Washington Center Gala in Washington, DC last week. In addition to the awards banquet and gala, S. Runge met with Dr. J. D. Mashburn and also with educational policy staff in the office Senator John Boozman.
- h. The UCA Board of Trustees will meet on Friday, October 10, 2014.

8. Member Reports

- a. J. Glenn referred to an email sent prior to this morning's CoD meeting regarding term/non-term courses. Council members were asked to notify Dr. Glenn of any degree program courses which do not begin and end within a single term. Such courses can have negative consequences with regard to federal financial aid.
- b. M. Lee provided an update on the work of the Diversity Advisory Committee and referred to an email previously sent to council members regarding diversity needs within the academic colleges. The university proposed an investment of \$200,000 for the support of diversity on

campus in its projected action steps provided to the Higher Learning Commission. At this time, Dr. Lee expects to request \$5,000 as an allocation for diversity support initiatives for each college; however, deans are asked to notify him of any additional diversity related funding needs.

- c. D. Pounder notified council members of a new Special Education minor set to be considered by the Board of Trustees. This minor is intended to target individuals who are not licensed teachers, but who have a need to develop an understanding of that population (ex. physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech therapists, etc.).
- d. K. Boniecki reminded council members that sabbatical leave applications are due to him tomorrow. He also reminded the group that class schedules for the spring 2015 semester should be finalized and entered into the system by October 21st. Student athletes will begin registering for courses on October 22nd, and advanced registration begins campus-wide on October 27th. Summer 2015 schedules should be finalized and entered at the same time.
- e. S. Bellar notified council members that four Ph.D. candidates in Psychology will defend their dissertations in October.
- f. J. Ishee asked council members to think of ways to improve upon the current hooding process for Ph.D. candidates. Discussion followed, and S. Runge will discuss this with the Registrar's office.
- g. S. Addison advised council members that work will begin soon to replace the roof on the Lewis Science Center. Periodic closures of some entrances and parking areas are expected.
- h. L. Young asked deans to be aware of the appropriate protocol when faculty members take unpaid leave. Faculty should be advised to communicate directly with the Office of Human Resources in determining the status of benefits while on unpaid leave. She also advised council members that prioritized SBAC new funding requests should be submitted to the Provost's office by October 10th. Any requests that will lead to the generation of revenue should be marked as such.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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