

Council of Deans
November 8, 2017

The Council of Deans met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 8, 2017. Provost Michael Hargis presided and the following members were present: Jonathan Glenn, Ken Griffin, Peter Mehl, Victoria Groves-Scott, Patricia Smith, Kurt Boniecki, Angela Barlow, Jimmy Ishee, Terry Wright, and Stephen Addison. Christina Madsen was present for agenda item one.

1. Christina Madsen, Associate Vice President for Communications, Public Relations and Marketing, spoke with the Council about the recently released UCA Annual Report. She asked that the Council keep a list of accomplishments for their respective college that will be submitted to University Relations & Creative Services in the spring for inclusion in the Annual Report.

An Editorial Board has been assembled and currently consists of 37 members who work in various areas across campus. Each academic college has a representative on the Board. She asked that the Council submit noteworthy events and news to their college's representative for the Board to consider. The items compiled through this effort will be used in various ways, including the Annual Report, the UCA Magazine, social media, and other advertising avenues.

She also reminded the Council about the BEARSHARE Brand Portal that can be used by all departments for creating marketing materials. Kimberly Klotz can assist in training anyone interested in using the Portal.

2. The CoD minutes from the November 1, 2017 meeting were considered and approved.
3. Member Reports
 - P. Mehl reported that the College of Liberal Arts hosted a successful Arkansas Collegiate Model United Nations Conference last Friday with approximately 100 students in attendance. They will host over 700 students at the Arkansas (High School) Model United Nations on November 17 and 18. Nick Brasovan was in charge of the Humanities Fair last week where approximately 200 high school students attended and 12 faculty members gave presentations. P. Mehl also provided the Council with an update and a handout on UCA's developing Civic Action Plan.
 - V. Groves-Scott thanked everyone for their attendance at the November 6 College of Education Technology Suite opening. The renovations and technology were funded by F&A from several grants written by COE faculty.

Friday, November 10, there will be a summit for College of Education Community College partners.

Friday, December 8, the College will host Hour of Code for Ida Burns and Theodore Jones Elementary School students where they will be introduced to coding and robotics.

Dr. Angela Barlow was announced as the Outstanding Reviewer for the Journal of Research in Mathematics Education.

- P. Smith stated that the Honors Council subcommittee is meeting weekly to discuss a proposal for an honors program to run alongside the Honors College. The Honors Council would like to recognize Honors College students who complete a thesis. The recognition could be in the form of a collar or medallion to be worn with their regalia at commencement.
The Honors College is busy recruiting between 2,000 and 2,500 students that are interested in UCA. P. Smith plans to pass the student information on to the appropriate dean based on the student's declared interest.
- K. Boniecki stated that the university is reviewing a three-year contract with the Gateways to Completion (G2C) program. The program, which was created by the John N. Gardner Institute (JNGI), focuses on gateway courses that have a historically high-failure rate or that have achievement gaps. The Council will participate in a one-hour webinar at the beginning of next week's meeting that will provide further information on G2C.
- A. Barlow reported that Patti Hornor will be contacting the Program Coordinators to notify them of the December 8 deadline for providing the Graduate School with a draft plan for each program's graduate requirements. This is in follow-up to the recent removal of the GRE as a requirement for graduation.
Please remind faculty that summer stipend proposals are due to department chairs on January 8, 2018.
- J. Ishee announced that the Family and Consumer Sciences department received a positive report following their on-campus site review.
- T. Wright stated that The Wizard of Oz will be performed Sunday night at 7:30 to a sold-out crowd.
The C.D. Wright Women Writers Conference was held last week with First Lady Jenny Davis introducing the keynote speaker at Friday night's event.
- S. Addison reported that there were 560 students in attendance at the INBRE Student Research Symposium on October 27. The External Advisory Committee reaffirmed the five INBRE awards to UCA faculty.
On February 14, 2018, there will be a Posters at the Capitol event highlighting student research. The students will present in two groups, at 11:00 and at 12:00.

4. Provost's Announcements

- The Council of Deans will have two meetings for the remainder of the semester. They will be on November 15 and December 13.
- Next Wednesday's meeting will begin with a one-hour G2C webinar.
- The Faculty Senate is interested in learning how many visiting professor positions have been converted into continuing, full-time positions over that past five years. Please submit the number of this type of position to the Provost's office before next Tuesday's meeting.
- On Monday, he met with the Associate Provosts, the Registrar and the Director of the Academic Advising Center to discuss the graduate application process and developing better checkpoints for Advising. It was decided in the meeting that the Advising Center will oversee the 30- and 60-hour markers in degree completion. They will audit lower-division Core courses and advise department advisors. The Registrar's office will be in charge of the graduation application audit beginning in January. They will also perform a 90-hour degree audit at the department level. The intended outcomes from these changes are a positive student experience, a better experience for faculty and staff, and an improved communication flow between the Advising Center and the departments.
- The Student Government Association has created a taskforce that is looking at college- and course-level fees. The taskforce will request meetings with the deans to discuss those fees. They would like to get a better understanding of the fee purpose and use, as well as learning whether the fee is sufficient for its purpose. Please keep the Provost posted on when these meetings are scheduled.
- The Minority Graduation Dinner will be Thursday, November 30, 5:00-7:00 in the Student Center Ballroom 205.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.