

Council of Deans
March 14, 2018

The Council of Deans met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 14, 2018. 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.

1. The minutes from the February 28, 2018 meeting were considered and approved.
2. Action items from the February 20, 2018 Undergraduate Council meeting were considered as follows:
 - New course GEST 4380 General Studies Capstone;
 - Addition of NURS 4315 Research and Evidence Based Practice to the UCA Upper Division Core as an elective in the category of Critical Inquiry and Effective Communication;
 - New course HIST 3390 Introduction to Historical Writing;
 - Reduce the total hours in the History minor from 24 to 18 hours and to expand the list of electives with four more courses;
 - New course PSCI 3345 Women and US Politics;
 - New course PSCI 3316 Cyber Security Law and Policy;
 - Addition of PHIL 3310 Symbolic Logic to the UCA Upper Division Core as an elective in the category area of Critical Inquiry;
 - New course PHIL 1375 FYS Diversity in World Cultures;
 - New program concentration B.S. Computer Science – Data Science Track;
 - New course CSCI 4491 Applied Data Science;
 - New course CSCI 4371 Machine Learning; and
 - New course CSCI 4375 Data Clustering.

A motion to approve was made and seconded. The Council voted to approve the above action items.

3. A. Barlow reported that Sponsored Programs is working on a guide for grant writing and performance. The guide will include links to important information and will cover the grant writing process from the initial idea to submitting the proposal.

In the future, she plans to propose using the agency budget form instead of the three separate budget forms that are currently required for the application process. Discussion followed.

She provided the Council with two handouts. The first handout lists the estimated fringe benefit rates for employees working on grant projects. She asked for the Council's feedback on additional employee categories to add to the list. The second handout was a proposal of allocations of indirect cost (F&A) recovery funds. The document listed the university's current and proposed allocations along with the published allocations for several peer and aspirant institutions. The Council discussed the proposal and voted to approve the new allocation percentages and to forward the proposal to Vice President Newton.

4. K. Boniecki led a discussion about special degree requirements. The Council will consider a proposal to eliminate special degree requirements, allowing each department to discuss and look at the disciplinary nature of their degree or degrees and to align them accordingly. The departments would have the ability to choose both Bachelor of Science (B.S.) and Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) but will need to show what makes them inherently B.S. or B.A. The Council will discuss at an upcoming meeting as well as at the Deans Retreat.

5. Member Reports

- T. Wright announced that the UCA and Hendrix Wind Ensembles, with composer Frank Ticheli, will perform tomorrow evening at 7:30 p.m.
- A. Barlow stated that Sponsored Programs hosted an information session yesterday about funding undergraduate research. The next session is scheduled for April 18 and will highlight the Student Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF).
- K. Boniecki provided the Council with a Gateways to Completion (G2C) handout of data on UCA's gateway courses. He asked that the Council review the data and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting. Four to six courses will ultimately be identified for inclusion in the G2C process. He, along with Julia Winden-Fey, Amy Hawkins, and Brandon Combs, will be attending a G2C conference next week and will have more information to share afterward.
- P. Smith asked the Council about their process for selecting an Outstanding Student of the Year. There is some variability as to how each college selects their outstanding student. It may be necessary to review the language of the commencement program to reduce confusion.
The Honors College has made offers to incoming Honors College students and to those interested in the university scholars program.
- V. Groves-Scott reported that the College of Education successfully hosted 450 high school students who are taking Introduction to Education classes. The Arkansas Department of Education has asked that they host the event again next year.
- P. Mehl stated that the Ethics Bowl team competed in Chicago and finished 21st out of 36 teams.

- K. Griffin announced that the College of Business honored their Intern of the Year at an event last night.
- J. Glenn reported that the Undergraduate and Graduate Bulletins are nearly ready for review by departments (an email will be forthcoming). Along with the new AMAPs, the new bulletins are expected to be published in mid-April.

6. Provost's Announcements

- The next Council of Deans meeting will be Wednesday, March 28.
- Provost Hargis will be presenting on Academic Affairs at the April Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) meeting. Please provide several items that can be used to highlight each college.
- The requested computer refresh data is due to Lori Hudspeth by March 28.
- All requests for the President's attendance at program review meetings and/or accreditation reviews should go through Jonathan Glenn in the Provost's office.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.