

University of Central Arkansas
Council of Deans
Wednesday, July 21, 2021
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Wingo 214

MINUTES

The Council of Deans met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on July 21, 2021. Provost Poulter presided and the following members were present: Stephen Addison, Angela Barlow, Kurt Boniecki, Jonathan Glenn, Victoria Groves-Scott, Michael Hargis, Nance Reese, Patricia Smith, and Tom Williams

1. Welcome: Provost Poulter welcomed and thanked members for their attendance.
 - a. Provost Poulter announced that the Chairs Leadership Retreat will take place July 26-27, 2021. Deans were asked to encourage their Chairs to attend.
 - b. Kurt Boniecki shared highlights from the successful National Conference of Academic Deans (NCAD) that took place July 13-15, 2021 and was hosted by UCA.

2. Action Items:
 - a. COD June 9, 2021 Minutes: A motion by Stephen Addison and second by Patricia Smith was made to approve the minutes of June 9, 2021 as presented. The motion carried with three abstentions.

3. Discussion Items
 - a. Business
 - i. Provost Updates
 1. Pandemic Planning
 - a. The Pandemic Planning Committee has resumed meeting. The Testing-Tracing Consortium will reconvene July 22nd.
 - b. Conway Regional Medical Center will post regional reporting to social media every Wednesday.
 - c. The next three to five weeks are key to how the university will open the academic year. Deans were asked to share the mask/vaccination information from the President with faculty who have been out this summer. Plans will be communicated via email to faculty, staff, and students.

- d. Building signage will be replaced with CDC recommended language and residence halls and student spaces will have signage with CDC information.
 - e. UMAC is working on a social media campaign focusing on the positive impact of choosing to be vaccinated. They are also working with RSO's to find students with an active social media presence to help in encouraging vaccinations.
 2. Enrollment: Enrollment numbers are positive and there is one more SOAR session. Kevin Thomas continues to share enrollment reports and they will be forwarded to Deans. It was requested that any faculty aware of upper-division students who have not enrolled to please reach out to them. Students returning to campus who were enrolled in spring 2020 will have their outstanding balances forgiven.
 3. Commencement: The ceremony will return to prior Covid restrictions. Hooding will return and face masks will be optional. Please let April Gunn know which ceremony you will attend.
 4. Student Convocation: Student Convocation will be held Monday, August 16, 2021 in the Farris Center. Deans will wear regalia.
 5. Grade Appeals-Incomplete Grading Policy: The Grade Appeals and Incomplete Grading Policies will go to the Undergraduate Council as action items. Upon approval, they will be referenced in the bulletin.
- ii. Discussion
 1. Peer and Aspirant Institutions-Jonathan Glenn: Dr. Glenn will develop a new list of peer and aspirant institutions. Members were asked to please send him a list of universities they currently monitor and why. Conversations will continue throughout the semester.
 2. Market Equity Analysis: Provost Poulter thanked members for the information shared. Institutional Research will begin pulling salaries and Human Resources is working on classified positions. The goal for completion is October 15, 2021. Conversations will continue.
 3. Higher Education Workforce Challenges: Provost Poulter and members discussed the current challenges facing higher education.
- b. Division Updates: Members provided an update on their respective college/division.

4. Important Dates

- a. July 26-29-Chair's Retreat
 - b. July 30-August 6: Provost Poulter Vacation
 - c. August 1: Deadline for Classroom/Public Spaces Reset
 - d. August 7: Graduate Commencement – 10:00 a.m. @ Farris Center
 - e. August 7: Undergraduate Commencement – 1:00 p.m. @ Farris Center
 - f. August 18: Fall Convocation – 9:00 a.m. @ Reynolds Performance Hall
- AY20-21 Initiatives
 - Instructional and Campus Continuity - Completed
 - HLC Assurance Argument Update - Completed
 - Strategic Plan Refresh - Completed
 - Incomplete Grade Policy - Completed
 - Retaking courses for grade forgiveness policy - Completed
 - Academic Grade Appeal Process - Awaiting Undergraduate Council final approval
 - Assignment of Instructional Duties - Continuing project
 - BA-BS Discussions and Decisions - Continuing project
 - Momentum Year (includes Meta-Majors) - Continuing project
 - G2C Expansion on Campus - Continuing project
 - Diversity, Belonging, Inclusion, and Equity - Continuing project
 - Policy and Process Improvements - Continuing project

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.