Deans Council October 14, 2008

Richard Berry Mary Nelle Brunson
Violet Rogers John Jacobson
Brian Murphy Buddy Himes
Scott Beasley Tony Duben
Shirley Dickerson Tom Wheeler

1. Undergraduate General Bulletin

Portia Gordon will be responsible for all changes to the undergraduate bulletin. Electronic copies of the current bulletin were sent to all departments and changes should be made in track changes and emailed from the deans to Portia by November 14, 2008.

2. Changes to Orientation

Dr. Peck has been working on changes to freshman orientation for 2009. The general feeling is that the current program is too long. One major change for next year will be that orientation will now run Thursday and Friday only instead of Sunday – Tuesday.

Dr. Berry asked the deans to look over the information and deadlines provided by Dr. Peck and report back at the next meeting.

3. Pathways

Monique Cossich

Summer 2008 was the first time the Pathways program has been coordinated through Admissions. This summer 182 students completed the program, with 144 students being successfully enrolled in fall, 2008.

Monique proposed that we pre-register Pathways students before summer II and provide orientation the day before - this was agreed by the deans.

4. College Readiness Standards Project

Debbie Kiesel

Standards were approved in January by the Coordinating Board for college readiness, six for higher education and four for high school. Two faculty members were chosen to submit additional information and lesson plans, Dr. Keith Hubbard in Math and Dr. Michael Given in English. There will be a faculty collaborative opportunity with the focus on students who will be teaching in high schools.

Debbie Kiesel is looking for 16 individuals to attend events; the P16 coordinator will attend all of them. The list is needed by January, 2009. One night's accommodation and meals will be paid by the State. The aim is to let faculty get involved and help steer the process.

5. Banner/Axcess Related Items

Sherry Wells/Karyn Hall

Sherry announced certain Banner/Axcess related items that need decisions to made:

Repeat Policy

With the transition to Banner the current repeat policy is problematic. We need to either average all the grades or replace with the highest grade. Sherry Wells recommends that we replace the grade, the financial penalty for three-peats is State mandated and therefore will remain the same.

It was agreed by all but one dean that the policy be changed to show the highest grade be listed. Dr. Murphy will take the policy to the Policy committee to make the necessary changes.

Cross Listing

An option is available in Banner to use a suspension/hold instead of a regular hold, which controls whether registration is allowed, Sherry announced she would like to try this; the deans are still able to override the hold. All deans agreed to the change.

Course Numbering

Following a course fee audit, there is confusion with some of the course numbering, particularly distinguishing between a lab and practicum. Course numbering needs to be agreed for the new Banner system.

Sherry Wells suggested forming a committee to look at course numbering and Dr. Berry agreed to do this.

Admissions

When Banner goes live in Admissions fall 2010, registration for spring/summer 2011 will be done in two systems. There will be no history for students from August 2010 because we will not have pre-requisites. Students will need to be seen on a one on one basis to override pre-requisite.

Sherry suggested turning off the pre-requisite and check this after they are registered. There were concerns from a number of deans. Dr. Berry said this would be discussed at a later date but would need to be decided soon.

6. SACS/Non-substantive changes

Dr. Brunson explained that we have programs currently under review with SACS for nursing, human services, and education leadership.

New programs must have all forms submitted to the curriculum committee and be processed through the normal procedures. They will not be considered by the committee until paperwork is complete.

Dr. Brunson stated that course changes are non-substantive and should be going through the regular review process at this time.

The task for the fall is to develop the course map or matrix showing all courses in the program and how they relate to the program learning outcomes. A sample is on the Institutional Accreditation Office website in the resources section. After the matrix is completed, then course learning outcomes need to be developed to show how the course supports the program learning outcomes.

7. Any Other Business

- The Board of Regents approved a name change for the Department of English and Philosophy to the Department of English. The Philosophy program will be moved to a newly formed Department of Communication and Contemporary Culture, effective September 1, 2008.
- A change to the table of programs was made with the Coordinating Board, deleting Agronomy and Gerontology as stand alone majors.
- A letter was received by Governor Perry requesting that every State agency reduce travel costs and provide a plan of how this will be done. Dr. Berry asked the deans to send any suggestions to Dr. Brunson, this will only affect state funded travel, it was noted that professional development are state accounts.
- Housing is over 100% capacity; we have 400 more students living on campus than last year.

A recommendation has been made to build a freshman dorm with 400 beds, which will replace Garner apartments. More parking will also be built and will be folded into residence fees. A new parking garage will be for permitted parking and will be built first. The proposal will be submitted to the Board in January, 2009.

8. Date of Next Meeting

October 29, 2008 – Academic Affairs Council