# Deans Council November 15, 2011

1. Semester Grades Policy (A-54) Monique Cossich/Lynda Langham Lynda Langham proposed changes to the Semester Grades policy (A-54) to state that a student can repeat the class as many times as they want at SFA and the highest grade will be posted. The committee approved the change and it will go to the board in January. The change will be effective Summer 2012.

The council were asked for guidance on how to address the grandfathering issue with regard to repeat grades. It was agreed that the highest grade policy would be used retroactively, for the time in which the hybrid policy was in effect. It was understood this could make a significant change to some student's GPA.

#### 2. Pathways

### Monique Cossich

The committee discussed the Pathways Program and Monique gave some information on success rate for this. She emphasized how important it is to have the correct faculty members teaching these students. We will bring this discussion back to a future meeting but Monique asked the deans to discuss this with chairs and begin to look for faculty who would like to teach these classes. It was agreed the Pathways program is a very good tool and offers dedicated sections to those students, giving them the personal attention from faculty and staff.

### 3. Graduate School

#### Mary Nelle Brunson

Dr. Brunson advised that a new program in Educational Leadership was approved through the Graduate Council but the necessary documentation was not completed and submitted. However, we have several students who have followed this plan and will be graduating in December, 2011. The deans gave their approval for these students to be allowed to graduate under these rules, and the department will go back and re-submit the full proposal to "clean up".

Dr. Brunson also reported that provisional and probationary admissions were not being adhered to and so now a hold is placed on them, which can only be removed by the Graduate office. Therefore, when there is a request for a hold to be removed it should be sent, not only to the dean and registrar but also to the graduate office. A copy of the process will be sent electronically to the deans.

There also seems to be an issue with thesis deadlines and Dr. Brunson is looking at this and may change in the future.

### 4. Department Name Change General Business

A request has been received for a name change in the College of Business for the Department of General Business to be changed to Department of Business Communication and Legal Studies. Dr. Arnold explained this would better describe what the department does. Dr. Berry approved the change but asked Dr. Murphy to discuss with his faculty within the communication department in case they see any conflict. We will bring this back to the next meeting for approval.

## 5. Mid-semester grade reports

Dr. Berry suggested having mandatory mid-semester grade reporting. He felt this would not cost a great deal but would offer more feedback

## 6. Any other business

James Baker will be here as part of the Archie McDonald Speaker Series on April 12, 2012.

#### 7. Date of next meeting

Academic Affairs Council - November 30, 2011

Present at meeting:
Judy Abbott
Danny Arnold
Ric Berry
Mary Nelle Brunson
Steve Bullard
Kim Childs
Shirley Dickerson
Buddy Himes
Brian Murphy

Present part of meeting:

Monique Cossich

Sabrina Delaney

Lynda Langham