The meeting began at 2:30pm in room 273D of the Ferguson Building. The people in attendance included the following:

Dr. Rick Abel (Government)
Dr. Freddie Avant (Social Work)
Dr. Dana Cooper (History)
Ms. Dixie Groll (Dean’s Assistant)
Dr. John Hendricks (Communication)
LTC (Retired) John McKinney (Military Science)
Mr. Perry Moon (College Council)
Dr. Brian Murphy (Dean)
Dr. Mark Sanders (English)
Dr. Kandy Stahl (Psychology)
Dr. Jeana Paul-Ureña (Modern Languages)
Dr. Jerry Williams (Sociology)

Dean Brian Murphy reminded the chairs that a new university policy (A-71) requires all research centers to undergo a review or forfeit the right to affiliate with SFA. The deadline for submitting centers for consideration elapsed on October 15 but any omissions could still be forwarded to the Dean’s Office by week’s end.

Dean Murphy circulated a proposal to revise the College Requirements section of the BA degree. A recommendation for such a modification was developed by an ad hoc committee last Spring but the College Council requested greater detail prior to possible implementation. This proposal is an effort to address the request. Dean Murphy will reconstitute the ad hoc committee to review the proposal and, if accepted, move it toward formal adoption.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to a workshop in which departmental Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) were evaluated. In order for PLOs to be sufficient, according to Dean Murphy, they must provide results that are meaningful, measurable, and useful for improving programs. The chairs discussed best practices in PLO rubric design. The following best practice principles were identified:

- The PLO must measure knowledge, skills, or behavior.
- The outcome must target the learning of individual students, not an entire class.
- The learning outcome (e.g., critical thinking) must be a measurement that applies to a program, making the use of grades/GPAs/test scores inappropriate.
- At least two assessment measures must exist for each PLO.

Given this understanding of best practices, PLOs for each department were assessed by the group and ideas shared on how to improve rubrics.

The meeting adjourned at 4:11.