

**Academic Affairs Directors Meeting  
February 21, 2018**

**1. Financial Aid Update**

Rachele Garrett/Lynda

Langham

Students can only receive financial aid for courses in their degree plan. This has actually been in place since 1964 but there was no mechanism in place. We are ahead of curve implementing, we started in spring and it is going fairly well. It is a big project with lots of reports, receiving daily reports on students affected.

Dr. Bullard asked what proportion of our graduate students have debt and how much? Rachele stated that undergrads have the largest debt . SFA rank high in student debt and second in State for parent loan debt.

The Coordinating Board 60 x30 Program is taking a serious look at this, stating students should graduate with no more debt than 60% of future salary.

Curriculum catalog change software was approved in January we are looking at fall implementation for curriculum and to complete next year's process of curriculum next year. General Bulletin will no longer be printed

**2. Space/FP&C Report**

John Calahan

John gave update on FP&C – the architect firm looking at our office space usage.

They will provide a plan for the next 10/15 years and make recommendations on how to relocate, move etc. STEM building will be open for fall term.

SACs published new draft on assessment plan. Completely reworked section on institutional effectiveness - what are we doing to help

students? A lot of our assessment plans may focus on our workflows etc., but what does that do for the student / what was impact on students. More of student learning focus. Renewed focus on how are we measuring strategic plan are there quantifiable metrics. Core curriculum assessment committee has been meeting with academic college's upper level assessment of core objectives.

**3. Reclassifications**

Steve Bullard

Last year there were none, we need to address some of those approved but not funded. More information to follow – a special called board meeting March 9 in Katy to discuss budget and enrollment.

**4. Lone Star College Closing the Loop**

Steve Bullard

Dr. Bullard gave an update - last Thursday VPs and deans went to Lone Star College (to be innovative as stated in strategic plan).

**5. Any Other Business**

Timpson is opening a collegiate center to show students what college will be like. We need to meet Students where they are – financially/ geographically. We are building multiple programs there, reaching out to students and help to lower their cost to get a four year degree. TJC, Panola and Lone Star are offering Social Work there and have one person located on site.

We now have 51 students at Panola, this week Dr. Bisping is going to Collin College, they have built Collin Higher Education Center, and other universities (partners) come there to teach. Dr. Bisping will be discussing specific areas.

In January Dr. Bullard and Dr. Pattillo presented a strategic plan update at the Coordinating Board.

Lone Star last week signing Sports Business Program which will start Fall 2018 there will be SFA faculty member onsite.

Our overarching goal is transformative experiences for students.

Dr. Solmonson was at Texas Council on Faculty Senates and then a school counseling meeting - they were raving about how great SFA admissions people are.

Dr. Sampson reported nine faculty members volunteered to be undergraduate research mentors.

Financial Aid Awareness Day - 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Financial Aid has awarded almost 5,000 students so far for 18/19 academic year.

***Attendees:***

Steve Bullard

Mary Nelle Brunson

Sharon Brewer

Lynda Langham

Rachele Garrett

John Calahan

Jonathan Helmke

Mary Smith

Heather Catton

Mike Tkacik

Raquel Skidmore

Leanne Solmonson

Robbie Steward

Pauline Sampson

Karyn Hall