

Academic Affairs Council

June 30, 2021

The meeting of Academic Affairs Council started at 9.03 a.m.

1. **Degree Map Maintenance & Creation in Curriculog**

John Calahan

JC explained this is something we have to do to be in compliance with House Bill 25. There have been a number of issues in the last few months with maintaining the most accurate, and up to date version, with different entities working on them. The recommendation is for these to be built and maintained inside Curriculog. The Registrar's office will build an additional approval step for the creation of course sequence. Therefore, any changes must be made in Curriculog.

Dr. Guidry stressed that if you design or modify a degree program, you have to go through Curriculog and update the degree map/8 semester sequence. (this only affects undergraduate). Advisers often use the degree PLAN rather than degree MAP, and therefore these must be updated also. It is important to have the same version, which will help with advising.

2. **Academic Program Review Update**

JC

Today is deadline for all APR worksheets to be completed, by 5pm. Deans can now go in and read the APR and enter comments, John can offer any help if needed. First meetings already scheduled for end of July with College of Fine Arts. If you have programs that are up for 10-year review, that requires an external reviewer and requires a few extra steps.

3. **Course Enrollment Caps/potentially lost revenue, negative impacts on QEP, & appearance of SFA as a non-student-centric institution**

JC

We have a significant number of courses with artificial caps, causing sections to show as full when students are trying to register for orientation. There are some valid reasons for this, but we need to change the general practice, as it is not student centric. We are not allowing students to register for classes they need when they need them., which is having negative impact on enrollment as well as our QEP goal. We have tools that monitor enrollment.

4. **Academic Performance Solutions**

Karyn Hall

Course Planning and Optimization launch

Karyn discussed wait listing option in Banner to help with course section sizes. Also, the newly launched EAB module Academic Performance Solutions (APS), which will be one of the main data sources for transformation process. This will be opened up to all faculty senate leadership as well as faculty interested in this, by the end of July.

Dr. Smith has formed a committee called the Academic Data Resources Team, consisting of: Marc

Guidry, Alisha Collins, Karyn Hall, John Calahan, John Wyatt, Jessica Barrett and Judi Kruwell. This group will provide data to allow informed decisions for the transformation process.

Dr. Abbott stressed that CAP continues to have issues, which is the system used by the registrar allowing students to verify their degree plans. Dr. Guidry agreed this is an ongoing issue and he has met with the registrar and Rich Barnhart, who assure him that any system would have similar problems due to degree complexity, substitutions etc. Dr. Abbott suggested at the very least, there be a warning to students running their CAP to verify with their advisers, as it is costing students money and time.

5. Student Registration History - Updates

KH

Karyn showed the updated student registration history, available through mySFA.

6. Update Off-Site Partnerships

Ryan Brown-Moreno

Ryan gave an update on the partnerships with SFA:

RELLIS, College Station - We are offering the BSIS, and currently have ten students enrolled, recruitment efforts continue

Aviation Program – we have hired program director Jim Williams, 40 students have applied, there is a lot of interest. We do not have aviation program yet we are fast tracking that for fall 2022 launch.

Polk County Center - hope to offer courses there but still working on this, we continue to look at opportunities for a presence.

Lone Star Atascosita – College of Business bridge program will launch spring 2022. Students will complete their Associates Degree with Lone Star and COB working on 3 courses to transition students from in-person community college courses to on-line four-year university courses.

Articulation Agreements – the webpage now only includes items that are updated and current.

7. 4SP Transformation

Lorenzo Smith

- Affirming the Problem Statement - by Dec 2021
- Prescribing Priorities for Academic Affairs - by Mar 2022
- Recommending a Solution - by ???.

Dr. Smith provided an overall update and will be providing a memo in writing, it is currently in draft form but will be going out to all Academic Affairs faculty and staff very soon. Dr. Smith plans to send these updates once or twice a month. Some highlights of the memo are:

Faculty and staff should expect to return to work physically at the start of the fall semester, including those who are teaching fully on-line, they should be prepared to work on campus to fulfill their job duties such as advising, committee service, etc.,

In consultation with the deans and Associate Provost, Dr. Smith is developing a new budget model for allocations to the colleges and various offices within Academic Affairs.

Dr. Abbott said that PCOE representatives on the University Budget Committee (UBC) feel things are not being expressed in the same way as the deans are being told, and there is a lot of anxiety/trust issues. Dr. Gordon explained there are a lot of moving parts, with continually changing information with the budget. The Finance and Audit committee of the Board are looking into this very intensely, to allow us to offer the most accurate information.

Dr. Smith stressed that whatever solution we choose we have to eliminate the structural deficit. We will have to transform what we are doing, how we are teaching. He believes the 5/10 student minimum for small class size are too small.

We will have to work as a team on this, the deans in particular are going to have a very difficult task managing relationships and getting buy-in from the faculty. We have to do something very different, while advancing students, faculty and staff success.

8. Hiring

LS

There will be three national dean searches for :

Dean of Graduate and Research

Dean of Fine Arts

Dean of Liberal & Applied Arts

We are currently looking at cost options and will start the process very soon.

9. Graduate School and Research

LS

Dr. Pauline Sampson is retiring August 31, 2021 and Dr. Freddie Avant will serve as the Interim Dean of Graduate and Research Studies beginning September 1, 2021.

Meeting adjourned 10.17 a.m.

Attendees:

Lorenzo Smith

Judy Abbott

Sharon Brewer

Mike Tkacik

Pauline Sampson

Ray Darville

Heather Catton

Ryan Brown Moreno

Scott Gordon

Megan Weatherly

Alisha Collins

Jonathan Helmke

Marc Guidry

Tim Bisping

Debbie Pace

Mark Sanders

Gary Wurtz

Hans Williams

John Calahan

Karyn Hall

Brian Uriegas

M E McWilliams

Erma Brecht