

Academic Affairs Council
September 21, 2011

Dr. Berry welcomed Dr. GERALYN Franklin to the meeting, she is the new Associate Dean for the College of Business and was representing Dr. Arnold.

1. Undergraduate Research Conference M Tkacik/ E Jones/ L Cecil
Dr. Jones reported that last year over 200 people attended the URC, parents of participating students were encouraged to attend, they appreciated being included. The conference is now becoming very competitive. Dr. Jones thanked the deans for their continued support.
This year's event is April 10, 2012 and is becoming a benchmark event at the university. Including representatives from community colleges this year, five to eight undergrads and their mentors, will meet with advisors and this will hopefully be a recruiting tool. This year URC have partnered with ORS, Bright Ideas, and QEP – it will be a whole week – Research Week.

2. Policies Steve Bullard
(A-4) Curriculum Reviews, Modifications and Approvals
(A-70) Substantive change minor changes
(E-50A) Tenure
There were only minor changes since last reviewed by this committee. The policies were discussed and with a few minor changes were approved and will be submitted for approval at the October board meeting.
Two more policies were brought to the committee by Dr. Berry mandated by audit findings, one is a new policy and the other is revised.
(D-8.1) Computer and Network Security
New Information Security for Portable Devices
both were approved and will be added to the October board agenda.

3. Removing access to SCT Student System Paul Davis
Now we are in Banner Paul Davis would like to reduce the access to Plus systems, removing faculty access to student information. Dr. Berry approved and requested the deans talk to their advisers and let Paul to know what access can be removed.

DEANS ONLY

4. Freshman convocation – Monique Cossich
Monique asked the deans where do we see this going? Do changes need to be made

for Academic Affairs? She explained how it started and how it has changed over the years. The deans felt they are not achieving anything at convocation, but agreed they had valuable sessions with students and parents at orientation.

College of Forestry and Agriculture have a hamburger/hot dog cook-out and give student leaders the microphone for one minute, there are approximately thirty altogether.

Dr. Berry feels we need to build community within the colleges from freshman class on. Fine arts students are consistently six points higher, this year they were twelve points, because they build community from day one. Retention has not improved much, we must make progress and a way to do this is to build community within each discipline.

Attendance is never a problem at convocation, we must make a decision on how to proceed, perhaps split the funds and let each college do their own thing.

We have to get to know our students and care about them. Monique suggested university wide major fair, we could have separate event for undecided students.

Dr. Berry asked the deans to go back to chairs and faculty and come back to discuss further in mid-October.

5. Faculty Workload Policy

The workload policy was established November 4, 1977 and has been revised ten times since then, with the most significant revisions in 2005 then again 2009. The policy went from being somewhat prescriptive, to very prescriptive to not at all. Dr. Berry is not happy with this, and will prepare a new draft, get with all deans separately, circulate. Most importantly we need to look at re-assigned time, it has gotten out of hand.

All requests for re-assignments must be approved by Dr. Berry BEFORE they start the semester.

It was also suggested that we look at reassigned time for 25%, if our course load is four courses, one class reassignment does not include research etc. Therefore, one teaching class is not 25%, research and service are included in faculty pay.

We also need to look at faculty members with reassigned time to do other things, then teach another class and want overload pay.

Dr. Berry wanted to start the conversation and will get revised policy to the board for approval in January.

6. Date of Next Meeting

Deans Council, October 5, 2011.