

**Deans Council**  
February 3, 2021

1. **Early Advising Incoming Freshmen** Tim Bisping/Mitch Crocker/ Michele Harris  
Brittany Beck, head of orientation, sent email to all PAAC advisors, stating they want to do early advising for incoming freshmen, as they did last year. Several advisers feel it does not work however, reports from Mitch Crocker and Michelle Harris support early advising and stated it went well in their colleges. Sam Houston start advising in February, Dr. Guidry said he would reach out to them and get some feedback.  
  
Dr. Abbott suggested, “de-coupling” orientation from registration, not making students wait to register until they have attended orientation. Dr. Guidry will discuss with Brittany Beck and Dr. Fry.
  
2. **Policies** Tim Bisping
  - 2.14 State Publications approved  
Approved by dean’s council, for approval at April board meeting.
  
  - 7.9 Distance Education Faculty Competencies and Compensation  
Tabled for further discussion.
  
  - 5.11 Extra-institutional Learning Experiences in the BAAS Degree approved  
Approved with minor change, for approval at April board meeting.
  
  - 6.12 Graduate Assistants  
Tabled for further discussion.
  
3. **Establish Centers Policy ( 5.10)** Pauline Sampson  
Discussion concerning paragraph 4 in this policy, which is not about establishing, but reviewing centers, Dr. Bullard advocates for this to be removed from the policy. Deans will discuss this further and bring back to the next meeting.
  
4. **Graduate Research Conference April 13, 2021** Pauline Sampson  
Reminder - Graduate Research Conference is April 13<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 5pm (virtual) abstracts are due by February 26, proposals a little later, one session will be non-English.
  
5. **QEP & Focused Report/Onsite** Marc Guidry  
Dr. Guidry had given QEP to Student Affairs because it involved things that weren’t strictly academic however, with the departure of Dr. Peck and Dr. Westbrook, it has come back and so Dr. Guidry will be taking the lead on this, with the help of John Calahan and Paul Henley. We will focus entirely on increasing students’ momentum toward graduation, trying to get students to graduate sooner, this will inevitably reduce student debt.

6. **Curriculum Changes** Marc Guidry  
Spreadsheets have been sent to deans for their review, they will go to the board for approval at the April meeting.
  
7. **Proposed Policies** Marc Guidry  
The duties and qualifications of a program coordinator;  
The difference in rigor and content between undergraduate and master's courses, and master's and doctoral courses.  
  
Dr. Guidry said that in response to the 13 points of non-compliance from the SACS report we are not in compliance with two of them, and would like to have policies in place. Firstly to ensure we have the right people in place, with the correct qualifications  
  
Also in demonstrating advanced rigor when going from MA to doctorate – the amount of mastery needed, having the correct qualifications when selecting program coordinators. Dr. Bisping stated we may be able to add these to current policies Dr. Sampson said if she could get a template, she will take to Graduate Council. Dr Guidry will work on this.
  
8. **Recruitment for the Reskilling grant scholarships** Marc Guidry  
We have been successful in receiving a reskilling grant because of COVID of \$110,000, earmarked for students who have stopped out because of COVID and only have a year left to graduate.  
  
Dr. Guidry will send the list of students who fall into this category and would like the deans to reach out to them. The timeline is very short, as this is for Spring 2.
  
9. **Class Times posted on Academic Affairs Webpage** Sharon Brewer  
Class Schedule times have been approved by calendar committee and will be posted on the academic affairs web page.
  
10. **Regents Scholar Medal** Sharon Brewer  
Our Regents Professor medal was designed and produced by Mr. Snyder about 20 years ago, who has now retired. We will be offering a competition to sculpture students in the School of Art under Eden Collins, to design and new medal, with a scholarship prize of \$500.
  
11. **Summer Budget deadline February 26<sup>th</sup>** Alisha Collins  
Alisha will be sending out spreadsheets to the deans and needs summer budget by February 26.
  
12. **Any Other Business**  
Dr. Bullard met with Heather Catton and faculty members who are proposing travel abroad, Jeremy Higgins was also on the call. With regards to international travel it is not

looking good now because of COVID, but we will continue to monitor the situation. Dr. Bullard stated that all study abroad approved for 2021 could roll over to 2022 if travel is still restricted.

Deans Council	Academic Affairs Council	Chairs Meeting
February 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	February 24 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	February 25 <sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	March 31 <sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	April 1 <sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
April 7 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	April 28 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	April 29 <sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
May 5 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	May 26 <sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.	May 27 <sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.