

Deans Council
March 11, 2015

1. Conferences in The Woodlands and Sugar Land Brian Murphy
Dr. Murphy explained that for the last four years he has been hosting an International Affairs Conference in Houston, with the original goal to raise SFA' s profile. He would now like to invite all colleges to participate and will be holding a conference in Sugarland on November 19th. He is also getting a better relationship with Lonestar College and asked them to hold a conference in the Woodlands on November 20th, which is a very affluent area. We will try to attract 300 high school students at the woodlands. All the deans agreed this was a great idea. It was suggested that perhaps next time the venue is Dallas and incorporate current students - engineering is a big topic right now.

2. Graduate School Mary Nelle Brunson
Dr. Brunson explained how graduate faculty works and said that chairs, deans and Provost are exempt from re-applying for graduate faculty status when their term runs out, or they step down. Graduate Council did not see it that way and feel all faculty including those in administrative roles should reapply. Applications are reviewed by Dr. Berry and Dr. Brunson. Dr. Childs said this is not their responsibility and they should not have to be on graduate faculty. Faculty in administrative roles does not have a current vita to be eligible. This item will be tabled for a future meeting.

There has been some miscommunication and misunderstanding on the number of hours a graduate student must be enrolled in order to be a Graduate Assistant, Dr. Brunson explained this is SIX hours. We need to ensure that all graduate advisors are aware so that we are consistent and it is most important to inform everyone.

It seems our repeats/probation status also affects assistantships. Graduate Council are looking at the policy compared to other institutions, do G.A.s get to stay as G.A. if they are on probation? Currently they have been allowing one semester on probation. Also an issue with grade repeats, how it is worded, matter of interpretation. Dr. Brunson said we do not have a grade policy for graduate students. It was agreed that we need one as soon as possible and graduate council will look into this and will bring recommendations to the Deans Council

and then to policy committee.

3. Education Advisory Board

We have a lot going on with EAB, we now have the student enablement part and approximately 140 students have signed up for the pilot. Two sections of engineering classes, a class of first generation students and a number of SGA students. EAB are happy with the cross section that signed up and the feedback they are getting.

4. Any Other Business

Dr. Bullard reported that we have hired Dr. Timothy Bisping from Louisiana Tech to be the new dean of the Rusche College of Business, effective July 1.

5. Date of Next Meeting

Deans Council, April 8, 2015