

Deans Council
April 18, 2012

1. Audits Gina Oglesbee

Gina explained the audit process, last year they started departmental audits with student areas such as residence life, campus recreation and orientation. This year they will be working on the academic side, starting with the deans. Information was distributed to the deans on the audit process. The main concern is to make sure we have internal controls to prevent fraud.

Gina asked for the deans help with these audits and will send a schedule of dates soon
2. Freshman Convocation Geraldyn Franklin

Dr. Franklin inquired what other deans had planned for freshman convocation, a handout was distributed listing student activities welcome week. Dr. Berry advised that we the deans should pick a date, regardless of the welcome week schedule, as that covers the first two weeks, he will work with University Affairs before next year to ensure all dates are not taken. He asked that deans communicate the dates and information to Monique Cossich. He advised there is money to assist in these events.
3. Policies Steve Bullard

Dr. Bullard asked about mid-term grades policy, he is considering reviewing semester grade policy, and add in mid-term grade item. Sabrina Delaney explained if we do that we do this have to turn on ALL mid-term grades, we cannot just open 100/200 level class. A policy needs to be written, emphasizing that 100/200 level classes will need mid-term grades, but does not exclude upper level if faculty want to do this. Focus on full semester courses. The Policy committee will start work on this policy.
4. Admissions for Graduate Students Mary Nelle Brunson

There is a discrepancy in admission fee, for undergraduate and graduate applications. Suggestion to increase admission fee to \$50, which would allow more funds for recruitment etc., this was taken to the Graduate Council and created a great deal of discussion. A number of faculty felt it was not necessary and would put additional burden on students. Split vote from Graduate Council – a decision needs to be made.
5. Low producing programs MaryNelle Brunson

Dr. Brunson attended UEAC meeting and discussion centered on low producing programs. Leadership proposed raising thresholds low producing programs 8, 5, 3. Results of both groups, no one in favor of raising threshold numbers but appears likely that is going to happen. We have one of the lowest thresholds. Needs to be more ways to look

at temporary exemptions. Recommendation from UEAC , take next two years and look at thresholds and see if it is having impact on student enrollments etc. and then decide what new thresholds are needed and then move forward from there.

6. Board meeting

Tuition was set for coming year at the board meeting, looked at taking 15 credit hours, fee increase 7.95% a little under \$15 per hour designated tuition.

President indicated during faculty recognition awards that this will enable us to set up merit pool for first time in several years. A budget meeting will be held tomorrow in McGee building. There will be a pool for raises and will be based on merit. The pool will be calculated excluding vacant positions.

Other changes may be to increase professional development and increase employee tuition benefit. When this was initially started it cover the cost of two classes per semester, now with increased costs that is no longer the case. Hopefully we can get it back to that level.

7. Budget

Dr. Berry stressed the importance to remember we still have challenges in front of us This merit pool is based on cost of tuition and fees and not on times getting better. Still in challenging times, will still be looking at reduced summer.

Merit pool for faculty and staff. It will be merit based. Every recommendation needs to be defensible.

8. Academic Program Reviews?

Dr. Brunson is currently working on these, all deadlines and other information will be posted on website.

9. Date of Next Meeting:

Academic Affairs, May 2, 2012

Deans Council, May 31st, 2012