

Minutes  
Deans Council  
May 4, 2011

1. **Policy Statement on Religion**

**Damon Derrick**

Damon reported that an issue had been brought to his attention, regarding the contents of a professor's course, including material of a religious nature. This had offended a student and so was removed, however further complaints were submitted because it was removed, as some students felt it was an attack on Christianity. He asked if he could submit some suggestions for a policy and Damon said he would be happy to look at it.

Damon does not feel this is a problem on campus and there are State rules in place that strictly govern this. Dr. Berry did not feel we need to have a policy on religion but asked that we look at what other colleges are doing.

2. **Adjunct Evaluations**

**Brian Murphy**

Dr. Murphy raised the issue of adjunct evaluations as this was an action item in our response to SACS. Dr. Brunson stated these must be completed and encouraged deans to look at the policy. The required form can be found on Academic Affairs webpage and should be completed by June 1, 2011. Hard copies of all evaluations with faculty names blacked out should be sent to Provost by June 7, 2011.

3. **Assessment**

**Larry King**

By now everyone should have identified research, community and public service objectives. Any changes in assessment plans, reports based on information from closing loops workshop should have been concluded. Reminder of deadline of July 15, 2011 for assessment for all units and objectives. Dr. Brunson deans to ensure the chairs are diligent with responses and stressed it is critical is completed.

4. **Academic Partnerships**

A company with whom we are attempting to work, to market a couple of our online programs, the item was pulled from the board agenda at the last minute because we could not come to final terms. We are now back on track and at the called meeting on May 13, Dr. Pattillo will ask for board approval.

Dr. Berry stressed that our main issue is to be a good representative of SFA, we want it to be high quality. Dr. Abbott explained that Lamar's on line program has put pressure on SFA, our enrollment has dropped.

5. **CHE112 Removal from the Core**

**Mike Janusa**

Dr. Janusa requested that Chemistry 112 be removed from the core, he explained that in 2003 Nursing advised that they only need one chemistry, not two. CHE 112 no longer serves core functions for any degree. The motion was approved by Dr. Abbott and seconded by Dr. Murphy. The registrar will be informed.

6. **Budget**

Dr. Berry gave a brief update on budgets and will be sending the deans a summary on capital budget. The next budget meeting will not take place until the end of the spring semester. We will defer computer replacement allocations again, which equate to \$1 million. There will be no funds for salary adjustments. We may have to reduce rates of pay for summer classes.

Dr. Fisher, who is on the calendar committee, stated there is a Tuesday during the fall that could be used as furlough day, if necessary.

7. **Any Other Business**

Dr. Berry said he hoped this would be the last core issue dealt with by Deans Council, he has appointed a core curriculum advisory committee to handle these kinds of changes, he hopes to convene a meeting over the summer.

We need to make a plan for assessing the core, ultimate deadline for implementation fall 2013. This will allow us time to develop our core, quite a few areas are mandated by state law. Plan to present to Coordinating Board October 2011.

Dr. Murphy said he is concerned that a number of transfer students do not complete the core here, and is concerned about the quality. Dr. Murphy will verify this and respond to Dr. Berry.

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

Academic Affairs Council – May 18, 2011.