

**Deans Council**  
**May 15, 2024**

**Collegiality**

- Collegiality is part of tenure policy, some faculty feel this can be weaponized against them.
- The deans and Damon do not feel this should be removed and should be monitored in the evaluation process.
- Dr. Abbott encourages documentation when faculty are inconsistent in collegiality, professional development/training needs to be provided for unit heads.
- Damon stated that “Termination of Tenured Faculty” is going through the HOPPER. This is based on UTS policy. UTS198 has now been passed and is binding on every campus and will be included in our HOP.

**DEI Statement in Syllabi**

- New regulations on DEI went into effect January 2024; everything was purged on line that refers to DEI.
- We are currently completing audit at all the institutions to get ahead of state audit.
- We need to remove DEI statements on course syllabi.
- Several accrediting agencies have a standard that reference DEI. We have to comply with SB17. Damon will look at these individually.

**Transfer Credits**

- Dr. Tammy Harris explained we have an exception for the number of transfer credit hours from community college; 66 is the average.
- There are others that transfer more hours, (such as Interior design), allowing them to bring in entire AAS degree.
- They can bring in 78/79 credits These align with our BS interior design curriculum.
- Dr. Weaver asked Dr. Smith if we are transfer friendly. The rumor is that we are not.
- The high for transfer enrollment at SFA was back in 2012.
- Most recent numbers in 2022 show our overall transfer enrollment is less than 10% of our overall enrollment.
- UT average is over 50%.
- We are not in a major metropolitan area which provides restrictions.

**RN-BSN Nursing**

- Our in-residence requirement has reduced to 30 hours from 42, due to BSN.
- We are looking at a transition program for those with an Associates RN coming back to get a bachelors degree.
- These nurses take the same nursing licensing board as our 4 year students.
- We would like to transfer 90 hours for those students and they would complete 30

hours at SFA.

- Shelley Hunt who oversees the RN-BSN transition program and has done a great job building relationships with community colleges.
- If we can remove barriers we will see more growth.
- Dr. Guidry noted that SACS requires 25% of courses to be taken at degree granting institutions.
- Dr. Smith asked Lee Furbeck how we make this happen.
- Megan Kelley asked is this is just for nursing. She has other community colleges interested in the same thing.
- Can we change transfer hours from 66 to 90?
- Dr. Smith said would need some kind of rationale.
- Other institutions are allowing students to transfer more than 66 hours and so we are losing students.
- Shelley Hunt explained the students she is dealing with are coming in core complete, although their core looks a little different from SFA.
- We have met with Panola and they want to transfer to SFA but they go elsewhere because of the number of transfer hours we accept.
- We need to look at HOP 207 and change the language to allow exceptions. Dr. Smith will work on the draft language.

#### **(CAP) Coordinated Admission Program**

- Students denied by UT and ranked in the top 7% can select CAP, come to SFA and get automatic acceptance to UT Austin. This process requires summer classes.
- Will go live Summer 2025.
- This program is very specific and involves a lot of steps to get to UT.
- These students could be eligible for School of Honors. We should involve Dr. Tkacik.
- UTS will provide training for advisors/recruiters.
- Each college has selected someone as their CAP advisor.
- It was noted this may not fit Forestry & Agriculture.

#### **Collaborative Practices**

- The registrar's office is taking over the catalog from UMC. Dr. Diez welcomes any input from the deans.

#### **UTS Regents Outstanding Teaching Award**

- We have submitted two nominations for the UTS Regents Outstanding Teaching Awards; Dr. Dan Bruton from Sciences & Mathematics and Dr. Pat Stephens Williams from Forestry & Agriculture. Selection and announcements will be made in the fall.

## **Budget**

- Deadlines have been moved up for p-cards, requisitions, etc. We should be mindful about spending balances.
- Ginger is assisting Judi Kruwell on behalf of Dr. Weaver with a list of vacancies across campus. He is requesting numbers on adjunct totals, headcount, etc.
- We could increase SFR to free up salary/positions, which would mean fewer adjuncts.
- We have made improvements in SFR.. In the past there has been no guarantee that savings come back to the college.
- Dr. Lane asked if a 3/3 course load could be implemented for some disciplines.
- Dr. Smith suggested we increase the CAP size.

## **Any Other Business**

- Karyn Hall is working on a new dashboard for the president.
- We need to look at efficiencies in different ways depending on programs, departments, colleges, etc.
- Dr. Guidry suggested that each of our programs look at what is possible and each college set a goal.
- We need to give careful thought on how to increase efficiencies in academic affairs.
- Dr. Knepp asked about return to faculty salary for unit heads. Does this need to be included in faculty contracts. This is still in discussion with John Wyatt.

Meeting adjourned 11.09

*Attendees: Lorenzo Smith, Sharon Brewer, Marc Guidry, Cleo House (for Gary Wurtz), Forrest Lane, Judy Abbott, Ginger Walker, Dustin Knepp, Tim Bisping, Hans Williams, Michele Harris (for Kim Childs)*

*Guests: Rachel Jumper Chay Runnels Megan Kelley, Tammy Harris, Shelley Hunt, Lee Furbeck*