

Deans Council
September 3, 2025

1. **Entrepreneurship Program**

Todd Brown

TB has been named Associate Vice President for Entrepreneurship with three other people in the office, Holly Smith, Monica Loa, and Matt Smilor, currently located in the Randall House.

The entrepreneurship program will no longer be part of the College of Business, but campus wide. Faculty fellows have been named from each college and they will work in a cohort basis this fall, engaging in classes with Dr. Ray Jones. In addition, they will go out to the industry to help prepare syllabus for spring offerings.

We can have the registrar's office tag those courses with a code for entrepreneurship, allowing us to track them.

We would like to have entrepreneurs in residence, as well as experts from industry who know what is needed to help students be successful. TB stated that faculty and chairs have been very open to this program.

We need to move more of these into degree plans as electives, allowing students to receive financial aid, this will allow them to be more successful. If classes fall outside of their degree plan they will not receive financial aid, which will make it a hard sell.

TB should work with colleges to create relevant minors, it will be very different for every college. A minor is 15-18 hours, with a certificate at 12 hours which is a little easier to achieve.

TB will be attending all convocations this fall to get the word out, classes will begin Spring 2026.

JH should reach out to fellows and see what resources they need and feature them in the library. This is something students want. We will be making thirty second pop-up pitches, any ideas for these should be sent to TB.

We are looking at alumni owned connections, as well as succession planning for companies wanting to retire/sell their business. We will also be helping local business to accelerate.

2. **Certificates and Minors**

Marc Guidry

We are recommending eliminating graduate minors. For undergraduate minors we should eliminate those not being taken, which could cause a challenge for the Bachelor of General Studies.

We do not want to eliminate anything that is recruiting students however, we need to clean up classes for Degree Works.

3. **Workload Policy**

Dustin Knepp

DK is serving as chair of AAHOP committee and recommended that it be chaired by Provost or Associate Provost. We did increase the number of chairs serving on the committee to ensure an equal number of leadership, with faculty.

JB has submitted a request to Archie Holmes to reconstitute faculty senate, the makeup will be determined at a higher level.

We will replace KC with Jason Reese on AAHOP committee for this year. AAHOP committee will meet Wednesday afternoons.

There was discussion on the workload policy, JB and SB will determine the final version reviewed by senate and chairs and the deans will meet to discuss. The deans feel the original policy was not broken.

There was discussion about our workload not being reported correctly, JB has a meeting scheduled with Karyn Hall to discuss.

4. **Program Budget Worksheet**

Forrest Lane

FL provided a spreadsheet detailing how to evaluate bottom line cost of programs, he shared with finance and administration. This is a tool to look at the viability of a program, the cost over a period of time and is it viable.

Currently the State does not require us to turn in a budget for programs less than \$2 million in first five years. It is essential we have a process to show how we will fund program changes. The deans will review this and get back to DC for further discussion/approval. Once this has been tested and proven we can upload in Modern Campus.

5. **Cabinet Meeting/Chairs' Council Update**

Jordan Barkley

Dr. Weaver does not like our summer model, JB will work with business services to see at what point does a class breakeven/make money.

Academic Affairs plan to add a second Associate Provost effective January 1, 2026.

JB and KW are working on a first-year student success project, they will need a leader for that, it will be someone from Academic Affairs.

Ashley Moore and Mickey Diez in registrar office will be leading centralized scheduling, the pilot will be with COLAA, chairs have first option.

We are still working on getting everyone access to the data they need for all colleges.

There was concern from the chairs and faculty senate about the proposed change in paying nine-month faculty, not allowing them to spread their salary. JB will meet with the budget office to discuss further.

There seems to be issues getting new, or returning faculty access to D2L until the first day of class, which does not allow them time to prepare. Need to schedule a meeting to discuss with HR, CTL and ITS.

If construction management graduates want to wear a hard hat for commencement they can.

We need to increase our online offerings but do not want to simply duplicate face to face classes but offer what is needed.

The president wants us to be an R2 if this is possible.

Any staff member teaching as an adjunct employee must have approval from their supervisor.

6. Date of Next Meeting

September 17, 2025

Attendees: Jordan Barkley, Marc Guidry, Sharon Brewer, Tricia Cain, Kim Childs, Gary Wurtz, Stacy Hendricks, Forrest Lane, Jason Reese, Hans Williams, Dustin Knepp, (part of meeting) Sheryl Jerez, Todd Brown, Jonathan Helmke