

Deans Council
September 20 2023

Meeting commenced at 9:10 a.m.

Minutes were approved and posted on webpage:

August 16, 2023

August 23, 2023

September 6, 2023

1. **Office of Institutional Effectiveness Update**

Marc Guidry

John Calahan has given notice and will be leaving SFA on October 20. He is taking a position at TLL Temple Foundation. The position will be posted as soon as possible. Dr. Guidry stated we cannot afford to have this position vacant very long.

2. **Deans Office Restructure Update**

Alisha was unable to attend the meeting, However, Dr. Childs stated she was uncomfortable with the proposed salaries for the restructures as they are all the same, but one. It was agreed they would be discussed in more detail, with each dean sharing specific duties for their positions. The deans felt there should be a salary structure for this purpose. Deans Forum will meet to discuss this in further detail in order to finalize restructures and submit to HR.

3. **Stacking financial aid awards** (update)

Lorenzo Smith

The Provost met for a second time with stakeholders regarding this issue (Tammy Mitchum, Rachele Garrett, Michaelyn Green, and Ryan Ivey). He stated these meetings were improving communication which has been part of the issue. Having everyone in the room was helpful.

It was agreed that if money goes into a FOP beginning with "29" they will automatically count as stackable, once ITS has completed work in Banner. The deans asked if they could also use "28" accounts as several scholarship funds were housed there, including Fine Arts. Sharon will look into this and get back with the deans.

The Provost will continue to meet with the group until the situation is resolved. Dr. Williams stated that several donors are becoming frustrated that donations are not getting to the students. They have been in touch with Development. Dr. Smith said Judi Kruwell is very understanding of the importance of outside funding being added to state funds.

4. **HOPs/Policy Committee**

Lorenzo Smith

Dr. Smith explained that the process for reviewing HOPs will be the 4SP, beginning with the HOP committee (cabinet), chaired by Damon Derrick. Dr. Williams strongly encouraged the committee to move to a five-year cycle which will bring workload down to a manageable level. Dr. Abbott made a motion to dissolve the Academic Policy Committee, the motion was seconded by Dr. Wurtz and all deans agreed. The committee members will be advised and the committee removed from the webpage.

Dr. Smith stated there is a 60-day limit set for Faculty Senate, in UTS guidelines and using the 4SP will hard-wire senate into the process more fully.

5. **STARS**

Lorenzo Smith

The Provost explained this is the first time going through the STARS process, which provided \$800,000 with \$500k toward retention and \$300k toward attracting new faculty. Dr. Smith had asked for requests that could add game changing actions and distinction to SFA.

It was noted that STARS could not be used for maintenance and subscriptions and there was discussion about the cost of maintenance after purchasing a big-ticket item.

Dr. Smith advised the deans of the approved requests he will be submitting for FY23. Letters of approval will be sent by the Provost.

For FY24 it is proposed that each college is awarded an amount to spend, this will differentiate between colleges. Dr. Smith also wants to provide funds for startup funds to attract new faculty. He asked the deans to think about how much they would need, keeping in mind there is \$300k and the provost wants to keep \$20k for contingency.

If the money is not spent we will lose it and therefore the provost set a deadline of February 19, 2024 to submit applications for FY24 funds.

6. **Six-Year Plan**

Lorenzo Smith

The provost provided a draft of his Six-year plan, listing the following strategies:

Strategy 1: Eliminate/Merge low degree-awarding majors

Strategy 2: Promote High Producing/Potential Majors

Strategy 3: Invest More in Advising

Strategy 4: Create (or support further) Signature Learning Experiences

Dr. Smith is proposing the 4SP as a first step and asked the deans to populate the spreadsheet with their needs.

This document will go to chairs and senate and eventually be put in front of the new president. These are initiatives for which we do not currently have funding Dr. Smith hopes this will be a talking point for everyone. Two items to possibly include are Improving international recruitment, and Gen Jacks.

The deans were asked to complete this document and return to the Provost by October 13, for discussion at dean's council on October 18.

7. Date of next meeting: October 4, 2023

Meeting adjourned 11.10 a.m.

Attendees:

Lorenzo Smith

Kim Childs (part)

Michelle Harris

Laurie Rogers

Marc Guidry

Sharon Brewer

Dustin Knepp

Judy Abbott

Hans Williams

Gary Wurtz