

Deans Council
November 1, 2023

The minutes from last two dean's council meetings 10/25 and 10/4 were sent to the deans and will be approved via email.

1. **Adjunct TLC/Faculty Workload** Karyn Hall
As a follow up to last week's discussion concerning adjunct TLC/faculty workload, specifically relating to TRS contributions, Karyn Hall was invited to answer any questions from the deans.

Karyn stated the change in workload policy has addressed the most urgent issue, she provided a useful document providing details of TLC calculations for faculty workload, providing college specifics. Policy states colleges can adjust their practice, if approved by the provost, and should be updated and published. The deans were asked to advise Karyn of any changes needed to be made to the document. Faculty workload will be an ongoing topic for dean's council.
2. **Curriculum Approval** Karyn Hall
Karyn provided a very easy to follow table explaining administrative academic changes that do not have to go through Curriculog.
3. **STARs** Lorenzo Smith
Dr. Smith provided the deans with the final decision on STARs. This year was difficult and messy, as it was the first time, we will ensure a better process for future.
4. **Cornerstone** Lorenzo Smith
UTS contracts with Cornerstone Advocacy Group in Washington DC, they are looking at presenting earmarks to federal legislature, which could be a good way to get support. UTS asked for ideas to present Cornerstone to submit to federal government. Mass Timber is something that catches the eyes of legislature, taps into sustainability and is very interdisciplinary. Most of the mass timber being used in Texas is coming from Europe. Dr. Smith will keep the deans updated.
5. **Chair Salaries** Lorenzo Smith
We have been asked by UTS to articulate with specificity salary information for our academic unit heads. We need to look at base salary and amount for service as chair. We will look at every chair and establish what would their base salary be for teaching. Dr. Smith asked should the amount paid for Chair duties be a specific amount, or a

percentage? We will need to consider the number of faculty the chair has to evaluate, accreditation and other factors. We have to complete this information to comply with policy. Further to come. This will not result in reduction in pay.

6. **HOPS**

Lorenzo Smith

The two HOPS being reviewed by the deans are due back to Deans Council for discussion on November 15.

- Affiliated Organizations and Advisory Councils
- Phased Faculty Retirement

7. **LERR**

Lorenzo Smith

Dr. Smith provided information on LERR Funding for FY24, all awards were listed in relation to PUF, LERR, and STARS. The deans can now look at this information and move forward, but do not need to purchase what was originally requested, as long as the item is eligible. Jessica Barrett will work with the assistants to the deans to move this forward. LERR cannot be used for annual costs it has to be a ONE-time purchase.

8. **Any Other Business**

Dr. Smith announced the Minnie Stevens Piper nominee will be Dr. Steven Galatas, his paperwork will be submitted by the deadline, November 18.

Dr. Smith gave an update on the “Unmet Needs” document, which is currently with Chairs Council. He asked that the faculty be reminded the Provost does not determine if or how financial decisions are made. He cannot make campus wide financial decisions, but can advocate for them. The final decision is a presidential one. Dr. Smith stressed this is a DRAFT mechanism to try to include everyone in the conversation, this will be an ongoing discussion.

Adjourned 10.36

Attendees:

Karyn Hall

Marc Guidry

Kim Childs

Gary Wurtz

Tim Bisping

Hans Williams

Lorenzo Smith

Sharon Brewer

Judy Abbott

Dustin Knepp

Jessica Barrett

Jonathan Helmke