

Deans council
March 19, 2025

1. **Book Adoptions Barnes & Noble**

Michara Delaney-Fields

Michara introduced Sarah Meadows and Lauren Martin from Barnes and Nobel. Summer deadline for book adoptions was 3/17, we are now at about 60%. The fall deadline is end of March.

2. **Workload Policy**

Jason Bruck

Jason Bruck, is working on Workload Policy on behalf of Faculty Senate and provided the deans with a draft, listing 25% research. There will be further discussion and we will invite Karyn Hall to a future meeting.

3. **Zero Credit Hour Courses**

Mickey Diez/Marc Guidry

There was discussion about how we handle zero credit hour courses on our transcripts, for the lab portion of a class. The course must have a grade, it can be pass/fail. Dr. Abbott asked the deans if they were happy to adopt this practice? They will discuss with chairs and get back to the registrar by the end of March. It does not need to be the same for all colleges.

4. **Spring Commencement**

Mickey Diez

We have publicized the new commencement schedule, which will now be on a Thursday and Friday, there will be no more Saturday commencements. Military commissioning of the oath will be included in all commencement ceremonies.

There is a desire to hood every graduate from the Masters' programs, discussion followed on how this could be handled, we would have to be efficient due to time limits. There was a feeling from the deans that this would lessen the importance of hooding the doctoral graduates. Some colleges already have a hooding ceremony the day before commencement.

The deans prefer having graduate and undergraduate commencements together. Dr. Abbott said we will move forward with the plan for spring (separate ceremonies) and then review.

5. **Workload Policy**

Gary Wurtz

In reviewing the workload HOP, Dr, Wurtz stated it does not add up to give faculty time to do research and scholarly work. This will be discussed in detail at a future deans' forum. The deans would prefer to wait for the new Provost, faculty senate do not want to wait.

6. **Proposed Changes ATCOFA**

Hans Williams

Dr. Williams explained the proposed changes for the college of Forestry and Agriculture. They plan to restructure and obtain School status for both Forestry and Agriculture, to allow growth of the college.

Ginger advised there is a lot of back end processes to follow when making changes and business office/registrar prefer a year lead time. Changes are also proposed for College of Liberal and Applied Arts.

7. Update on Dean Searches

Judy Abbott

Dr. Abbott welcome Dr. Reese as acting dean for the College of Business, Dr. Bisping will remain as dean for the couple of months, working on other projects.

The President has agreed to hire a search firm to hire a dean for the College of Business and also pause the current search for Dean for the College Education and use the same firm.

Therefore, we will have two dean searches starting this summer, with a hope to naming a dean for each college by January or possibly summer, 2026.

8. Update on Provost Search

Judy Abbott

We have four candidates coming for campus interviews at the end of March/early April.

Attendees: Marc Guidry, Kim Childs, Jason Bruck, Gary Wurtz, Forrest Lane, Stacy Hendricks, Ginger Walker, Mickey Diez, Dustin Knepp, Jason Reese, Hans Williams, Sharon Brewer, Judy Abbott, Michara Delaney-Fields,, Sarah Meadows, Lauren Martin