

Provost Council Meeting

Minutes

November 30, 2018

Meeting called by: David Yells, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Members include: Del Doughty, Gary Stading, Liz Patterson, Teri Stover, Carl Greig, Kelly Coke, Jana Boatright, Shelley Caraway, Barbara Sears, Kathy Williams, Tina Boitnott, Craig Nakashian and Richard Parsons

Members Absent: Shelley Caraway, Kelly Coke, Jana Boatright, and Barbara Sears

Guest: Drs. Green and Williams

Recorder: Norma McCormick

I. Open Educational Resource Summit Update

Dr. Kevin Williams

Dr. Williams and Teri attended the OER Summit in San Antonio, TX. Sixty institutions were represented with one hundred attendees. The institutions learned more about the OER and how to work together on a statewide agenda for affordable student resources. The meeting consisted of group priorities regarding issues related to funding and sustainability, standardization and academic freedom, and opportunities provided by a strong history of library collaboration throughout the state. The Coordinating Board is requesting funding from the legislature for the statewide OER. A committee will be formed in the spring to address these issues. System office has requested the university to provide a baseline measure as to where we are now, how many courses/faculty do we have using OER now, and what other processes do we have in place to reduce student costs.

II. QEP Update

Drs. Lawrence & Green

Dr. Green reported that we had three students attend the Pathways conference and one student received second place. The QEP Steering team has begun establishing working groups for sustainability with experiential learning. The groups are focusing on sustaining our initiatives for experiential learning showcase, undergraduate research, the Pathways, service learning, and internships. She noted that we have several faculty members with experience in these areas that will help us sustain our QEP initiatives. We have new El Cadre members Mr. Irizarry, Dr. Murray, and Dr. Sikorski which will begin their initial training and join the Steering committee in pushing these initiatives. The L² meetings, which are lunch and learns, were developed to discuss experiential learning. Drs. Green and Lawrence are making community presentations for experiential learning and recruiting internships for the students.

III. Course Scheduling

Dr. Yells

Dr. Yells asked that everyone send him their pros and cons for the proposed changes to course scheduling by December 7th, 2018. PAC has requested a comprehensive list of pros and cons for changing the way we schedule courses. Dr. Yells will compile results and present those to PAC. Carl held open forum meetings with very little student participation. He is still working on creating the survey.

IV. May Mini Study Abroad Course- LEAD 497
Special Topics: Global Perspectives of Leadership
in the Workplace-Prague Czech Republic

Tina Boitnott

Tina discussed the possibility of a study abroad opportunity to Prague for the LEAD 497 course in May 2019. The proposal is still pending approval.

V. Admissions Criteria

Dr. Yells

Dr. Yells discussed the possibility of revising our admissions standards because we don't have a formal process for admissions. One issue is requiring multiply items for admissions from the student and the information not getting submitted which results in a lot of pending students. A committee has been formed to work with the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee. They have held discussions and presented data to come up with some new proposed admissions criteria, so that we have a formalized process for admissions. No changes will be made this year. The group will make a recommendation to PAC.

VI. PAC Updates

Dr. Yells

Dr. Yells announced the fitness center is open. The cost for employees is \$100 per semester, but if you participate in the wellness program then you receive a \$45 discount from the wellness program. Only employees are allowed to be a member of the fitness center at this time. The Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs has been talking with a company called Re-UP that specializes in reaching out to students that didn't complete their degree. If the student returns and completes their degree Re-UP receives 20% of their tuition. We provide the company with a list of students we want contacted and they do the legwork to get the student re-admitted. System office is in the early stages of this discussion.

Next meeting Friday, December 14, 2018 in the TEXAR room.