

Academic Council Minutes

January 14, 2014

BA 290

Academic Council Members in Attendance:

- Dr. Adolfo Benavides, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Dr. Dan Edelman, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs
- Dr. Arlene Horne, Vice Provost for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies
- Dr. Marila Palmer, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness and Planning
- Dr. Kenneth Clinton, Associate Vice President for Global Initiatives
- Dr. Steve Williams, Dean, College of Business and Entrepreneurship
- Dr. Sal Attardo, Dean, College of Humanities, Social Sciences and Art
- Dr. Grady Blount, Dean, College of Science, Engineering and Agriculture
- Mr. Greg Mitchell, Director of Libraries
- Dr. Ray Green, Dean, Honors College
- Dr. Ricky Dobbs, Dean, University College
- Dr. Edward Romero, Chief Diversity Officer and Director of Equal Opportunity
- Mr. Joe Daun, Department Head Representative
- Dr. William Kuracina, Assistant Professor and Assistant Provost Intern

Academic Council Members not in Attendance

- Dr. Gail Johnson, Interim Dean, College of Education and Human Services

Others in Attendance:

- Dr. Mary Beth Sampson, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research
- Dr. Jennifer Schroeder, Department Head, Psychology, Counseling, and Special Education (attending as representative for Dean Gail Johnson)
- Ms. Cynthia Rhodes, Executive Assistant to the Provost

Minutes recorded by Cynthia Rhodes.

Welcome and Introductions - Introduction and welcome were given to Dr. Steve Williams, Dean of College of Business and Entrepreneurship. Dr. Williams began serving as the new dean of the college effective January 6, 2014. Dr. William Kuracina, Assistant Professor of History, was welcomed as the latest Academic Council member. Dr. Kuracina will serve as the first faculty member to serve in the Assistant Provost Intern position. Dr. Kuracina began his internship effective January 13, 2014 and will serve during the spring 2014 semester.

Comprehensive Standard 3.6.1 “Post Baccalaureate Program Rigor” – Dr. Benavides and Dr. Palmer reminded the deans that graduate courses must be clearly differentiated from undergraduate courses. Course syllabi must include the differences between the two levels in areas such as the assignments, additional readings, and learning outcomes. It does not matter whether the graduate course is cross-listed with an undergraduate course or not, ALL graduate level courses must be at a level of complexity and specialization that extends the knowledge and intellectual maturity of the students.

International Student Enrollment – Dr. Clinton provided an update regarding international student enrollment. The university has experienced a decline in the number of international students this semester. There are approximately 258 fewer students enrollment in spring 2014 than at this time in spring 2013. Dr. Benavides complimented the efforts of Dr. Sang Suh, Department Head and faculty in the Department of Computer Science for creating new sections to accommodate 40+ new students from India. Dr. Clinton stated students have been identified as international ambassadors so when they return home to their native

country, they serve as recruiters. There are currently students on campus from fifty (50) different countries. Dr. Sampson stated it is anticipated that funding may be available for additional scholarships in summer 2014, fall 2014 and spring 2015.

Future Academic Council Meetings – The group discussed the possibility of changing Academic Council meetings to once per week and/or setting a time limit of one hour instead of two hours for meetings. After careful consideration, Dr. Benavides will let Council members know what is decided regarding future meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Library – The doorway on the Education North side of the Library is now open. During the holidays, construction to remove the overhang was conducted and now the doorway is operational.

Honors College – Dr. Green announced that the first Regent Scholar graduate and is currently serving as an intern for Southwest Airlines.

University College – Dr. Dobbs complimented the math department for recent changes made to the math program/courses. There has been an increase in the number of students graduating from the math courses than in previous semesters.

CHSSA - The University Art Gallery presents AMOS Kennedy and Be BOLD from January 14 – February 7, 2014. An open reception will be held tonight at 5 p.m.

Rodeo Program – In addition to serving as Chief Diversity Officer, Dr. Edward Romero is also serving as Advisor/Rodeo Coach. There are currently 10 students in the participating and there will be 5 rodeo events per fall/spring semester. The first rodeo will be held in February 2014.

Research – Dr. Horne announced the research program for faculty will run from January 22, 2014 through April 2014. Ten faculty have signed up to participate in the research program.