

## Deans Council Minutes

June 8, 2010, 9:00 am

### Present:

Dr. Lemanski

Dr. McBroom

Dr. Evans

Dr. Langford

Dr. Mangus

Dr. Sampson (substitute for Dr. Headley)

Greta Spradling

Cynthia Rhodes

Greg Mitchell

Amy Patrick

### Guest:

Dr. Sang Suh

### Agenda Items:

1. **Ph.D. in Computational Science:** Dr. Sang Suh presented the new doctoral degree proposal for the Ph.D. in Computational Science. The proposal was approved by the Deans Council. It will be presented at the September Board of Regents meeting.
2. **GA Request for FY 2011** are due June 30 to Cynthia Rhodes. Each GA request is to include a justification. HEAF and Adjunct requests will require the same justification and ranking of importance. A deadline has not been set for HEAF and Adjunct reports.
3. **2010-2011 Curriculum Changes:** Dr. Randy McBroom presented the annual update for Curriculum Changes. The Deans voted to approve the 2010-2011 Curriculum Changes.
4. **Cash4College:** Dr. Mary Beth Sampson reported that it has been a challenge communicating the scholarship availability to the students. New graduate students are being targeted for the scholarships. The problem identified was that this campaign was not planned well in advance.
5. **Strategic Initiative Funding:** Academics has giving more money to the Strategic Initiative than it has received in return. Discussion followed. Dr. Randy McBroom will write a letter addressing the Advising Fee charged to students. The letter will express the need for a percentage of the fee to go directly to Graduate Studies for graduate advising.
6. **Star Telegram Article** "Deeper cuts loom for state budget as Perry seeks 10 percent more in savings" dated May 28, 2010: Informational article on possible budget cuts.
7. **2010 Star Award Nominations:** Greta Spradling is asking the Deans to consider nomination to submit for the 2010 award. A&M Commerce has received the award in 2005 and 2009. The Deans suggested the Art Program in Downtown Dallas and the Rockwall Center. Dr. Mangus and Dr. Evans should submit those nominations by the June 14 deadline.

8. **Strategies to Maximize Enrollment for Summer II and Fall:** It was decided to increase course caps to 90. Sections could be divided up before classes begin. The utilization of larger classrooms was also suggested. Dr. Lemanski asked that departments move toward larger sections for Summer II and the Fall semester.
9. **Mike Villarreal Letter:** In response to the Villarreal letter, Dr. Jones has asked for bulleted items describing the positive things that we are doing to address the education challenges. Dr. Mangus has responded with a letter. Greta will compile the list of additional items.

#### **10. Open Forum**

- Dr. McBroom distributed FY2011 Health Plan Premiums cost table.
- Dr. Sampson reported that reports of No Grad and grade changes were causing problems with graduate certifications.
- Dr. Mangus reported that Sid Richardson Foundation has included A&M-Commerce on a project. It is a great opportunity for improving math and science teacher preparation.
- Greta Spradling communicated the process of the Provost Office for taking student complaints. She will follow a student complaint call with a call or e-mail to the department and Dean to keep everyone informed.
- Dr. Mangus reported that LSU contracts with Moodle for their Learning Management System. This would be an extremely large savings over the Universities current provider.
- Dr. McBroom stated we should be hearing from the THECB about our new program approvals for Fall.
- Rachel Neff is under contract to develop the new Nursing program. She and Dr. McBroom are working on a community needs assessment.

#### **Action Items:**

- GA request and justification to Cynthia Rhodes no later than June 30.
- Dr. Randy McBroom will write a letter addressing the Advising Fee charged to students. The letter will express the need for a percentage of the fee to go directly to Academics for Graduate Student advising.
- Dr. Mangus – submit a nomination for the Rockwall Center for a Star Award by the June 14 deadline.
- Dr. Evans - submit a nominations for the Art program for a Star Award by the June 14 deadline.
- Submit bulleted items describing the positive things that we are doing to address the education challenges by Friday, June 11. Greta Spradling will compile the list for Marcia Lair.

**Next Meeting:** June 22, 9:00 am (Agenda Items due to Greta by Noon, June 21.)