

Provost Council
Nov. 18, 2009
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Assembly Room, BV 1.338

AGENDA

FUNDING FOR POSTDOC TEACHING POSITIONS

JOHN FREDERICK

Dr. Frederick posed the idea to the Council of hiring post-doctoral students and allow them to teach. The premise would be to assist colleges that are short on full faculty members and whose budgets don't allow them to hire full-time non-tenured-track faculty. The post-doctoral positions would not require a high salary, but they would gain teaching experience. It would also allow the university to enhance its diversity pool. The Dean's wanted to discuss the idea further at its next retreat.

SACS UPDATE

SANDY WELCH

Sandy Welch, Vice Provost for Accountability & Institutional Effectiveness reported that she received the preliminary reports from the SACS off-site review team. The committee indicated that more information was needed from certain colleges regarding faculty qualifications and assessments. Dr. Welch stressed to the Council the importance of having overwhelming information regarding the quality of our faculty and their qualifications to teach the courses they are assigned to. Further, Dr. Welch stated that if we do not mend this problem now, then faculty will have to submit annual reviews more often. Also, Dr. Welch stated that departments need to make sure that they have every faculty transcript on file—including non-tenure track faculty. Finally, she stated that if you have concerns about teaching assistants' qualifications, one only needs to assign a faculty member as "Instructor of Record" and that will satisfy SACS.

Dr. Welch mentioned that some colleges are going to have work very hard over the next few weeks to "beef up" their assessment reports. SACS will not accept grades as assessment. Steve Wilkerson and Sandy Welch will meet with the Associate Deans from each college to review assessments and get them working on the reports that need to be resubmitted to SACS in February prior to the On-Site Review committees visit to campus in March.