

Provost Council
Jan. 19, 2011
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
MB 3.106 Regents' Room

AGENDA

GRADUATION INITIATIVE

Patti Glenn, Assoc. Dean for Retention and Graduation, and Kristi Meyer, Director of the Graduation Initiative attend the Provost Council to provide an update on their efforts. The Graduation Initiative formed out of a task force to investigate our time-to-graduation rates and reasons why students were not graduating. The Graduation Initiative's goal is to also raise the graduation rates of our students. A few of activities that the Graduation Initiative office administers is the Late Intervention Program, the Welcome Back program and the Financial Literacy program. The office also researches new policies at the university, system, state and federal levels and how it impacts our students. The office also assists the colleges by analyzing statistical data based on the needs/requests from the colleges.

The Late Intervention program reaches out to students who have exceeded their 4 year time-to-degree to assist them with overcoming barriers to obtaining a degree. The Welcome Back program reaches out to students who are close to receiving their degree, but for numerous reasons dropped out of school. This program provides support services and offers various incentives, including a financial grant, to assist with completing their degree. The Financial Literacy program is an on-line program designed to educate students on money matters and to help avoid creating debt. The Graduation Initiative is currently in the process of assisting students who applied for graduation, but for some reason were denied and to assist with overcoming barriers to a degree. The Graduation Initiative hopes to begin a program which assists transfer students to complete their degrees

ANNUAL REPORT

Dr. Bob Gracy reviewed the Annual Report of Sponsored Program Activities for FY 2010. Although we had a very good year in sponsored program awards and expenditures and our outlook for this year looks good, we are concerned that federal dollars, which includes ARRA stimulus funding, may roll back to the 2008 level, which could damage our efforts to reach the \$50 million mark in expenditures. When we reach that mark, we receive matching funds which would be \$1 million. However, we have learned that the CTRC has invited UTSA to join partnership in cancer

research which extends beyond the COS and COE to sociology and psychology. Dr. Gracy invited the Deans to submit names of faculty who would be interested in this partnership.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY FOR Q1 2010-2011

Dr. Woods presented a report on the research activity for the first quarter. Total proposal submissions for the same period in 2009 are down 11%. However, Dr. Woods stated that we are going after larger awards. She also informed the Deans that they could access their own data through the CAYUSE system.

UNDERGRADUATE RECRUITMENT UPDATE

Lisa Firmin gave a report on recruiting efforts. She stated that applications for the class of 2011 are up 17%. She also mentioned that a new event has been added—a top 500 dinner which is invitation only. This event invites the top 500 students and their parents to a dinner with faculty and deans to assist with decisions on accepting admittance to UTSA. Other events that are ongoing to prospective students include Roadrunner day and UTSA Day, which is an open house for the class of 2012.

WORKLOAD REPORT IMPROVEMENTS

Dr. Welch reported that her office has improved the workload report in order to facilitate the departments in determining which faculty need workload releases. However, her office will still need to manually input information on faculty who are on a leave of absence.