

Provost Council
Nov. 16, 2011
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
MB 3.106 Regents' Room

AGENDA

CORE CURRICULUM REVISIONS

Dr. Nancy Martin, Associate Vice Provost for the Core Curriculum, presented the timeline for the core curriculum revision process which has been approved by the Coordinating Board. She has set up an on-line submission process on her website for faculty to submit their proposals. The deadline for submitting is March 12, 2012. The core curriculum committee will review the proposals and forward their recommendations to the university core curriculum committee. In turn, the UCCC will present the recommendations to the Faculty Senate prior to submitting the recommendations to UT System and then to the Coordinating Board (due in Nov., 2012). The new proposal will be effective for the 2014-2016 catalog.

GRANT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Dr. Marianne Woods, Sr. Associate VP for Research Administration, asked the Council to provide their input into the new grant submission guides which are being developed. She stated that we are missing deadlines for submissions as the pre-award personnel are receiving proposals too late to review and submit. She would like to establish a deadline for submitting the budget and a separate deadline for receiving the proposal/scientific content. Her suggestion was for a 5 day/5 day deadline, respectively. However, the Research Advisory Council countered with a 5 day/3 day deadline so that faculty can continue working on the content of the proposal. The problem with the RAC's recommendation is that sometimes the scientific content can change the budget proposal. In addition, the grant may include more than one college and they need time to review/approve the grant. Dr. Woods mentioned that Northwestern University has a 5 day/3day process, but that most universities work under the 5 day/5 day deadline. The deans agreed that a 5 day/5 day deadline would be easier to manage and is clear and concise. However, three of the deans agreed with the RAC's recommendation of a 5 day/3 day submission deadline process. Dr. Woods stated that she would establish a 5 day/5 day guideline.

ROADRUNNER COUNSELOR SHOWCASE

Lisa Firmin, Associate Provost for Diversity and Student Recruitment, announced the upcoming Roadrunner Counselor Showcase which is scheduled for Dec. 12th and 13th. She has for the deans to provide a name

from each college to coordinate the activities during these days. She stated that she is open to the colleges have a power point presentation or offering tours of a center or lab---whatever the deans/colleges wish to showcase to the high school counselors. She also stated that there would be a dinner on Dec. 12th at Rio Rio on the Riverwalk and invitations will be sent out soon.

FAIR UPDATE

Dr. Sandy Welch, Vice Provost for Accountability, et al, provided a demonstration of FAIR and the various categories/reports that can be generated from the program. She mentioned that she needs the deans and department chairs to encourage their faculty to keep their information up-to-date.

SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES TO PROGRAMS

Dr. Welch discussed the new substantive change policy she received from our accrediting body—SACS. She further stated that our HOP 2.35 policy will need to be amended to line up with the SACS policy. Dr. Welch stressed the importance of following the SACS policy because if SACS determines we are out of compliance they could send a team in to investigate the off-site classrooms and could require us to close the course and refund tuition to students. Dr. Welch provided the SACS webpage on substantive changes, but also noted that the Deans and Department Chairs can contact her for advice.

<http://www.sacscoc.org/pdf/081705/Substantive%20Change%20policy.pdf>

GRADUATION RATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN (aka GRIP)

Dr. Welch noted that the draft GRIP is almost complete and will send out to the Deans shortly. She also noted that she recently attended an APLU meeting which she learned that other institutions were working on similar efforts and provided wonderful ideas she would like to include in the plan.

CAYUSE SYSTEM

The Deans asked Marianne Woods and Jeff Kantor if additional criteria can be added to the CAYUSE System (on-line system to approve grant proposals). Specifically, the Deans are concerned about not seeing grant proposals that are cross-colleges. Typically the college of the PI is the only one to see/approve the proposal. Dr. Woods and Dr. Kantor assured the Deans that adding this step would not be a problem.

MENTORING FACULTY

Dr. Frederick mentioned that he recently added the APLU National meeting where the discussion of mentoring young faculty was a topic of discussion. He mentioned that Kansas State has a program, funded by a NSF grant, wherein senior faculty mentor junior faculty (the faculty usually are not from the same institution). The program has been ongoing for seven years and K-State has seen benefits from the program. In addition to the mentoring, the two faculty members begin collaborating on projects and invite one another

to their respective campuses to conduct seminars. He would like to see if there is any interest at UTSA to start a mentoring program. The deans thought it was a good idea, but would like to discuss at a later date.