

Provost's Council
October 17, 2012
3:00 – 5:00 PM
MB 3.106 Regents' Room

AGENDA

INTRODUCTION OF NEW ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Dr. Larry Williams, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies introduced, Dr. Tammy Wyatt, Associate Professor in the Department of Health & Kinesiology, as the new Associate Dean for the University College. Dr. Wyatt stated she is excited about the new College and working with the faculty and students.

FUNDRAISING

Dr. Frederick mentioned that at a recent UTSA football game, he had a conversation with Dr. Romo about the roles Deans play in fundraising efforts for their respective colleges. Dr. Frederick asked the Deans if they are receiving the proper amount of assistance to help them with fundraising efforts. He also asked if it would be beneficial to bring in an outside consultant to offer a workshop/training on effective fundraising. Some of the comments that were expressed are:

It's slow work and you have to develop the relationship and keep the dialogue going with prospective and current donors;

You need a strong associate dean to assist with running the college so that your schedule allows for meeting with donors and attending events.

We need to learn "how" to raise funds in San Antonio. At the recent UTSA/Rice football game it was noted that the Rice alumni were divided into classes by decades and each group went out onto the football field to present checks from donations they secured through the alumni. This would probably be difficult for us to do as we are a young university.

One college recently invited several alumni to a football game. It was an enjoyable experience and led to some alumni donating money.

Linda Lopez-George, Executive Director of Development, works with foundations and has had some success in getting the foundations to donate money to the university.

Julius Gribou, Senior International Officer, said that we need to do a better job of reaching out to our international alumni and he is currently working with the associate vice president of alumni relations, Jim Mickey. It was mentioned that UT Dallas' School of Management is named after one of their benefactors who lives in India. It took three years to cultivate the relationship prior to the naming of the school.

Laura Murray, Asst. VP in External Relations, mentioned that we have a database (Razor's Edge) that contains a lot of information on donors and prospective donors. Each development officer creates a contact report in Razor's Edge following meetings/phone calls with donors. Laura also mentioned that Sarah Brandt is a full-time researcher in the office and can provide valuable information. Laura also said that when she was employed at UT Dallas they brought an outside consultant in to meet with the Deans to offer fundraising pointers.

Several of the Deans stated that they would like to attend a workshop. Several expressed that at times they feel left in the dark---unsure if there are constituents they should or should not be meeting with. Is there is university strategy when it comes to donors.

Laura said that she would speak to Marjie French, VP for External Relations, to see about setting up a workshop for the Deans.

ACADEMIC INQUIRY COURSE

Dr. Frederick led a discussion about the new academic inquiry course that is due to begin in the Fall 2014. To refresh everyone's memory, the AI course is part of the Freshman Focus which was a recommendation from the Blue Ribbon Committee on Undergraduate Experience. The course is designed to help transition students from high school to college and to introduce the students to various types of research: sciences, humanities, social sciences. The AI course is tentatively scheduled to become a part of the core curriculum in order to keep earning a degree at the 120 semester credit hour limit.

The idea behind the academic inquiry course is that every freshman would be assigned to a cohort of 25, but possibly 50 students each. Currently, the writing program teaches in sections of 25 students, so it's feasible to assign two writing core program sections could feed into one AI course.

Questions that need addressing:

- What courses that are currently being taught in the core curriculum will be impacted by the addition of the AI course?
- Who will teach the AI courses? Ideally, we do not want these courses to be taught by part-time NTT faculty as it would defeat the purpose of the course (introducing students to research). Could TA's be used as instructors?

- Should we have a Plan B, if the pilot program (Fall 2013) is unsuccessful? Or, if we cannot get all of the logistics worked out in time for Fall 2014?
- Need to consider SACS credentialing.

EXTENDED EDUCATION

Dr. Frederick mentioned that Dr. Jude Valdez, Vice President for Community Services, recently asked if him to reconsider the current payment structure for faculty teaching extended education courses. The Deans wanted to know if a faculty member could earn more than 100% of their salary due to time and effort policies. Can a faculty member buy-out their service or course in order to teach an extended education course? Not sure if Community Services could afford that. Would it be prudent to bring extended education into the department/college as a stream of revenue?

Dr. Frederick mentioned the recent agreement between UT System and Edex, a company that offers free on-line courses. From his understanding, if you want to earn college credit you would have to take an exam. How would this affect extended education at UTSA? Several Deans mentioned that they would like to have a right of first refusal for courses that are being taught through Community Services to see if the college could offer the course. Further discussion is needed with Dr. Valdez.

RESEARCH UPDATE

Dr. Frederick mentioned that the new Research Advisory Board met recently and is in the process of selecting a chair and vice-chair. He also mentioned that each of the new Research Service Centers are open and will be hosting open houses. He encouraged all of the Deans to attend their respective RSC.

GENDER IDENTITY POLICY

Lisa Firmin, Associate Provost for Diversity, presented an overview of a policy change that is being considered on gender identity. In 2007, this issue was brought to CMO for consideration. In 2011, the SGA passed a resolution to add gender identity and gender expression to the HOP 9.01 policy (discrimination). If passed by CMO, the policy change would go to the HOP committee and through their many stages of review. Lisa recommended that training needed to occur with our faculty and staff so that we are aware of how to handle gender identity and gender expression so that our students, faculty and staff will feel safe on campus.

ACADEMIC ANALYTICS

Dorothy Flannagan, Vice Provost for The Graduate School, mentioned that she and the other Deans attended the Academic Analytics Kick-off presentation in Austin recently. It was decided that this topic needed additional discussion at the next Dean's Council meeting.

INTERNATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Julius Gribou, Executive Vice Provost and Senior International Officer, discussed the recent census report on international students at UTSA. He noted the decline in enrollment with students from India. In 2011, we enrolled over 300 students and in 2012, we enrolled 138. A few of the Deans wondered if the numbers were accurate, as they felt it was such a large decline in enrollment. The largest group is the students from Saudi Arabia. Mr. Gribou stated that we continue to develop relationships with other countries to offer student abroad programs or programs to bring international students to UTSA. He further mentioned that in the coming weeks, he will be meeting with delegations from Russia and Saudi Arabia and then will be traveling with Dean Merchant to China.