

Provost Council June 29, 2011

Present: S. Westbrooks, J. Ferguson, F. Diaz, S. Gist, Roosevelt Martin for D. Collins, M. Mobley Smith, T. Hope, D. Jefferson, S. Westbrooks, J. Akujieze, D. Jefferson, J. Balogun, David Kanis, Liz Osika for R. Darga. Guest: W. Watson. Vacation: R. Benny, R. Milo.

1. Approval of the Minutes: June 15, 2011, Minutes approved.
 - a. Item #7 Unauthorized Purchases. Change the third sentence from “five or six” to “two”. A notice goes into the personnel file after two rather than five unauthorized purchases. Add: “After a third time of submitting an unauthorized purchase, a notice of action will go into the personnel file, which might mean removal as fiscal officer for the remainder of the academic year.” – Discussion: Since the last meeting, only two have been submitted. Both are from the same college. It is the originator’s responsibility to stay on top of the process and to make sure it moves forward because the process may take longer than 30 days. During Fiscal Officer Training, the deans should come with specific issues or examples to discuss because the office involved in CSU Buy and Purchasing do not understand problems. Example: when can we find if a check has been generated and sent? This can be found in CSU Express, if you find it, print that page and retain because there will be a check number.

Visitation by Dr. Watson: Challenge in the fall enrollment because we are implementing a university policy to dismiss low performing students. In addition, we are looking at those dismissed from CSU (@ 300) because of poor performance. IT will run an analysis on the backgrounds of these students – former high schools, GPA, ACT scores, attendance, etc. If data shows that a significant number of those dismissed are from < 15, 16 or 17 ACT or with certain high school GPA or high school, we might not admit any more with that profile. We also are looking at who is in developmental courses. The question is raised about whether we are correctly preparing those students to succeed once they leave those classes. If we are not adequately preparing students, we need to know this. Both federal and state programs are no longer funding universities or students going into developmental courses. We are working with developmental courses like community colleges and we are not, we are a university and should not be in this business. Westbrooks states that in December IBHE reports the percentage of developmental courses and about one-third of our courses at CSU fell into this group. This includes the bridge courses, math, reading, and English. Other university uses enrichment courses. We are at fault because of admission practices. If we dismiss 300 and do not admit 250, this is 10% of our undergraduate population. This has other ramifications such as part-time faculty hires, the freshmen cohort will become more realistic because four or five years from now the graduation rate will jump dramatically because of the higher profile students.

This goes against the concept of open admission, but the legislature is moving toward closing down universities, colleges, departments or programs. As deans, you need to get discourse going with faculty and students immediately. This is not an attempt to do this without faculty, but a necessity based upon time. Need to engage faculty. This will be a data driven exercise.

If the dismissed students attend a community college, the CSU GPA does not change. The good grade earned at the other college will help to show seriousness of their interest in seeking a degree. We cannot be a friend or enabler, but rely upon integrity toward the university. Decisions should be based upon ethics and data driven. How many times do we reinstate a student?

We will have a potential drop in enrollment. We are asked to identify students who want to succeed and have requisite admission qualities. Ask the faculty to participate. The admissions office will give us names of students to call and encourage attending CSU. This is what many other universities do – getting faculty to call prospective students (those applied but not committed) to enroll in CSU.

At PEC, the President asked deans to send him two major accomplishments and two challenges (also, solutions if known). Please provide this information by 4:00 or 5:00 p.m. today.

OLD BUSINESS

2. Technology updates (Dillon/Rigsby): On track for Banner 8 update for July 1. After 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, the system will be taken down for the upgrade. Moodle should not be affected. Email will function. Full function testing on July 4 for operation on July 5. Posting grades, cougar connect, CSU buy will be out of commission during this period.
3. Freshman Updates: See President's request.
4. Enrollment Update (Sidney):

NEW BUSINESS

5. Discussion: Update on CTRE (Osika): this year will not have to pay for Blackboard so more funds for seed grants and enrichment. There will be a faculty advisory board to review and approve budget and programs. Volunteers from the faculty are working on this project. After five years in works, the on-line teacher certification is ready. This is a 10-hour course for anyone teaching on-line. Guarantees a minimal level of competency, quality rubric, and builds relationship with Osika's staff so can help; and will get an iPad once they complete the course and teach. Currently, have identified all those teaching 21 or 51 level courses have been invited to attend the pilot. The faculty will be retaining the iPad as long as they teach at CSU. There is a new faculty computer lab with high-end scanners on third floor. This is advertised to adjuncts as an office area where can work and meet students. There will be student workers in her area to assist students and faculty about Moodle. Faculty can get support on putting materials. This year enrichment is \$15,000 and seed grants \$10,000, and to promote faculty engagement with students outside classroom the grant will pay. This will interface with student affairs.

August 16 and 17 – New Faculty Orientation, Library 3rd Floor. We need to get chairs and deans copied, on the invitation. Mike Sukowski is the new director for CTRE. Call him with new names. There are 23 currently on the list. Please let them know others to invite.

September – open house with archives, HLC and CTRE

Brown Bag sessions on calendar – CTRE, program on teaching faculty how to teach them to write, Pres. Watson has concerns about teaching math and English – identify experts teaching developmental courses external to CSU to host special sessions.

CTRE is interested in working with IT about ordering specialized software. There should be a way to learn if other units have a license or need before purchasing. Rigsby will look into this.

6. Student Dismissal for Poor Academic Scholarship: Policy Review (Westbrooks): A packet of four documents with revisions of the dismissal policy was distributed for review. Suggestions were made to the documents. The provost is meeting with Dr. Searcy on this, and he has been asked to send it out to faculty.
7. Restructuring: Closed Session for Deans (Westbrooks): Session discussed Elimination of Continuing Education and restructuring of College of Arts and Science.
8. OTHER Matters – Announcement
 - a. Regional representative from Junior Achievement to get CSU involved.
 - b. Welcome Week – staff and faculty participation is requested. There will be a resource fair on Monday. Athletic activities/competition are on Wednesday.
 - c. Graduate Student in higher education/leadership approached Ferguson about an internship. There is a college protocol to follow, which he will follow.
 - d. Athletic Dept. will ask colleges, departments, etc., hosts a game. More information is to follow.
9. Adjournment
 - a. Unauthorized Purchases – since last meeting only two have been submitted. Both are from the same college.
 - b. Introduced David Kanis as interim dean effective July 1.
 - c. If you see Latino students and parents, direct them the Latino Resource Center in CRSU, 2nd floor.
 - d. Pharmacy Candidacy status re-affirmed through graduation and next site visit will be 2012 to move to next stage.
 - e. IBHE officially approved the MSN program and working to launch program by fall 2011.