

Academic Deans' Council
November 2, 2021 - HHS Conference Room
Minutes

Present: S. Clouse, J. Klingemann, L. Mayrand, N. Negovetich, M. Salisbury, P. Swets,
A. Tiger, D. Topliff.
Guests: R. Hawkins, K. Mikulik

Minutes:

1. Topic: Minutes from October 12, 2021.
Minutes approved.

Announcements

- Free Market Institute (FMI) lecture is tomorrow. Matt Ridley will present a public lecture at 5:30 pm in the Auditorium. Book signing will be before the lecture at 4:45-5:15 pm.
- D. Topliff informed members he has accepted the President's request to head the search committee for the vice president for Student Affairs position. He said he will keep the committee to six or seven people but everyone will have an opportunity for input. It is expected the posting will go out about the middle of next week. Interviews will likely be held in February. The goal is to have the person begin by mid-summer. The Provost asked members to invite anyone they know who might be interested in the position to apply.

Old Business:

2. Topic: President Hawkins (R. Hawkins)
 - Continuation of Book Club meeting issue yesterday, digital fluency. There will be a meeting to look at how to manage data sometime in the next two weeks. A. Wright and D. Topliff will send out information.
 - J. Droll is the project manager for automation of operating policies. A new software, Policy Stat, will be implemented to manage the process for operating policies. More information will be forthcoming.
 - The President asked that members digitally sign as much as possible. The College of Education is running a pilot program for electronic faculty evaluations. The President and Provost told members not to print the evaluation packets. The College of Education is using Adobe Sign and S. Clouse offered M. Osbourne as a resource if anyone has questions about the program.
 - A. Wright will be contacting each member to discuss building upgrades. ASU has been given \$36 million through Texas Revenue Bond (TRB) funds for upgrades to buildings and facilities.
 - Regent Arcilia Acosta has been invited to speak at the graduation ceremonies. The President will send her biography to members.
 - The President said ASU needs to manage students from registration through graduation with an emphasis on freshman year and first-time students. More information will be forthcoming.
3. Topic: COVID Information (D. Topliff)
 - COVID active cases: 4 student and zero faculty/staff cases. The numbers are continuing a downward trend.

5. Topic: IE Distribution (D. Topliff)
 - D. Topliff said the IE funds transfers were made by the Budget Office to each College. He said there are some issues and adjustments will need to be made.
6. Topic: Dean of Freshman College Update (S. Clouse)
 - S. Clouse said the final search committee meeting is scheduled for this Thursday. A final name will be submitted. It is expected an offer to be made by the end of November and the new dean will come on board in January.
7. Topic: Retention Discussion (D. Topliff)
 - D. Topliff said the retention rate fell slightly during COVID by about 1%. The way ASU handles students from beginning to end is being reviewed. It was suggested to pull student organizations into retention activities as well.
 - There was a brief discussion about GS 1181 courses and Early Alert. D. Topliff said there is currently only one person handling Early Alerts. He said he will talk to the Faculty Senate about how to use Early Alert to identify students within two-four weeks. Training needs to be given to faculty on what exactly they are reporting – engagement or participation.
 - A pilot program to use Grade Book in Blackboard to be able to mine data will be run during the winter mini-session.

New Business:

8. Topic: Admissions and Academic Department Recruitment Collaboration (K. Mikulik)
 - K. Mikulik distributed information regarding collaboration between Admissions and Academic Departments (document attached). She asked for feedback and there was a brief discussion.
 - Admissions would like to meet with departments to present the collaboration proposal. Members said Admissions representatives will be invited to a leadership meeting.

Roundtable

John Klingemann

- Informed members the Ram band is competing at the UIL State Championships. This is the first time the Ram Band has been invited and it is a great honor.

Nicolas Negovetich

- Informed members the Faculty Senate would like to create a ombudsman position. D. Topliff approved the proposal.

Adjournment