

Deans Council Minutes
April 4, 2016
1:30 PM
Presidents Conference Room, Lee Hall

In attendance: Julia Hodges, Richard Blackbourn, Lori Bruce, Frances Coleman, John Dickerson, Rick Travis, George Hopper, Jason Keith, Joan Lucas, Kevin Rogers (for Sharon Oswald), Mike Rackley, Peter Ryan, Kent Hoblet, Chris Snyder, Jim West, Tim Chamblee, Allison Pearson, Terry Dale Cruse, Anastasia Elder, Hunt Walne

Others present: David Thompson, Lynn Reinschmiedt

Minutes taken by: Lecrisha Nail

1. Upon a motion by Frances Coleman and second by George Hopper, the minutes of the March 21, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously with no edits. Agenda items were discussed:
2. Research Scientist Classification
 - a. Currently there are positions for research engineers and research faculty. The research scientist position is parallel to this.
 - b. MSU has been working on a more promotable path for research positions
 - c. Still need to look at the possibility of research engineer being able to promote to research scientist.
 - d. This should help our Carnegie rankings. The current research faculty positions do not count in the rankings.
3. Announcements
 - a. Executive Director of the Center for Distance Education position has been filled.
 - i. Dr. Whitt Salley will start on June 1
 - b. Faculty Awards Reception is scheduled for April 26 at 2:00 in the Grisham Room.
 - i. Deans need to plan to recognize four or five faculty who have received awards throughout the year.
4. AOP 13.03 Faculty Responsibilities in Instruction
 - a. This is the second time to look at the policy since it was previously tabled.
 - b. Section 2 was divided into two sections to clarify the different faculty.
 - c. Dr. Ryan made a motion to accept for discussion. With a second from Dr. Lori Bruce, the floor was opened for discussion.
 - d. This is solely to handle a disruption with a 9-month tenure-track faculty.
 - e. Dr. Elder asked about drop-grades
 - f. Dr. Hopper suggested labeling section 2 and 3 to make it clear who the policy is directed towards
 - g. Dr. Travis mentioned relisting last part of section 2 as a stand-alone section. He also said the wording "should or must" needs to be consistent as "should."
 - h. Need to change the Title IX link in section one because it is only an email address link. Need to put a link to the Title IX policy.
 - i. This policy will be tabled until changes are made.
5. AOP12.09 Class Attendance and Reporting Absences
 - a. Dr. Ryan made a motion to review the changes to AOP 12.09 and Dr. Jim West seconded the motion. The floor was opened for discussion.
 - b. The wording in the excused absence section, first bullet point, makes it sound like it's discretionary to give authorization to miss classes due to campus events.
 - c. Participation in an official university activity indicated by prior authorization from a university official.

- d. We also need to add that if a disagreement arises on the validity of an authorized activity, how will it be handled?
 - e. The policy will be tabled until changes are made.
6. Other
- a. Dr. Snyder mentioned that this past week, John Selbet of Aerospace Engineering won a gold honor and scholarship.
 - b. Dr. Keith mentioned that Dr. Dennis Truax was named a Fellow of the National Society of Professional Engineers.
 - c. Dr. Bruce mentioned this is the time of year when graduate scholarships are awarded. Also this week is national graduate student appreciation week. This Thursday is Hall of Fame Awards.
 - d. Dr. Hopper mentioned that MSU hosted the food science nutrition students hosted an academic event this past weekend. About 100 students attended. Also the National Association of Landscape Architecture event was hosted by MSU a couple of weeks ago bringing in around 7000 attendees. Landscape Architecture will celebrate its 50th anniversary this weekend.
 - e. Amy Adkerson mentioned that registration starts today for summer and fall.
 - f. Dr. Elder mentioned that Faculty Senate officer elections are this Friday.
 - g. Dr. Ryan mentioned that MSU is looking at making it mandatory that faculty be required to give an option of why a student earned a grade of F. This will ensure that this information is posted before faculty leave for the summer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.