

Associate Deans Council
August 14, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Ryan, Kari Babski-Reeves, Tracey Baham, Steve Bullard, Tracey Craven, Jim Dunne, Anastasia Elder, Dana Franz, Kim Hall, Christine Jackson, Dominic Lippillo, Melanie Loehwing, Bethany Mills, Lynda Moore White, Eric Moyen, Tabor Mullen, David Nolen, Andy Perkins, Kevin Rogers, Michael Seymour, Emily Shaw, Deanna Smith, Darrell Sparks, Shelby Tschume, Lisa Stricklin, Tina Gilliland

Dr. Peter Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM

1. Consideration of the minutes

Upon a motion by Dr. Kevin Rogers and a second by Dr. Darrell Sparks, the minutes from July 10, 2024, were approved.

2. Announcements

- Dr. Peter Ryan mentioned to the council that Ms. Lynda Moore White will now be representing the Interdisciplinary Studies Program as the Assistant Dean.
- Dr. Ryan also mentioned that he is stepping down as the Dean of the Graduate School to allow him to work more closely with Dr. Shaw on several initiatives and to focus on more Provost and Executive Vice President activities. Dr. Angi Bourgeois will serve as Interim Dean of the Graduate School.
- Fall Convocation will be held on August 27th at 6:00 PM in Humphrey Coliseum. The President's Office will be hosting a reception prior to convocation in the Triple Crown Club beginning at 4:45 PM. The guest speaker for convocation, will be Ms. Whitney Lipscomb, Mississippi Deputy Attorney General.

3. AOP's

➤ **AOP 13.05: Faculty Grievance Procedures**

At the beginning of this meeting, Dr. Ryan stated that additional edits had been made to the policy and thus the one before the council is an incorrect version of the policy and therefore he suggested council table the review and reintroduce the updated version at the next council meeting when council members had adequate time to review the policy. Dr. Melanie Loehwing made the motion to table and a second was received from Dr. Kevin Rogers.

The policy will be brought back to the council at the next meeting.

➤ **AOP 12.38: Undergraduate Academic Advisement** (technical change only)

This policy requires an immediate technical change due to standards that were changed by the IHL. In section three, the word core needs to be changed to "cumulative" due to an update of the IHL policy section six hundred that no longer utilizes the "core" GPA for admission determination.

A motion to accept this change was made by Associate Dean David Nolen and a second was received by Dr. Kari Babski-Reeves.

This technical change was approved.

➤ **AOP 12.38: Undergraduate Academic Advisement** (for full discussion)

A motion was made by Dr. Darrell Sparks to approve this policy as presented and a second was made by Associate Dean David Nolen.

The title University Academic Advising Center has been changed to the Center for Advising. This correction was made throughout the document.

Item number four: reference to Meridian Campus was changed to Meridian locations.

Item number eleven: freshmen has been changed to first-time in college.

Per Dr. Darrell Sparks' suggestion, the word "summer" will be deleted.

There were questions by members as to whether the cumulative GPA is weighted. Dr. Ryan will seek clarification and report back to the council.

There was a lengthy discussion about items number six, nine and ten.

Dr. Ryan suggested a sub-committee to look at item numbers six, nine and ten.

- Dr. Kevin Rogers, Chair
- Dr. Dana Franz
- Ms. Bethany Mills
- Dr. Dominic Lippillo
- Dr. Eric Moyon
- Dr. Melanie Loehwing

Dr. Ryan asked that the subcommittee strive for a completion date of early October.

A motion to table was made by Associate Dean David Nolen and a second was given by Dr. Anastasia Elder.

AOP 12.38 was tabled.

➤ **AOP 12.04: Final Examination** (back from Deans Council)

A motion was made to accept the policy as presented by Dr. Kevin Rogers and a second was received by Dr. Melanie Loehwing.

The policy is coming back to council from Deans Council due to questions regarding "Grading Day."

After a brief discussion, the decision was made to add the following statement after the first full paragraph on page two:

- "Grading Day: Faculty should be given at least 24 hours from the time of conclusion of the examination period and the submission of final grades to the Registrar's Office to grade exams."
- Dr. Anastasia Elder requested changing the language regarding Reading Days to "no course related activities" instead of no student activities. Dr. Ryan stated that Reading Days are protected days for the students. Dr. Elder continued her appeal to have the language changed and pressed for the council to vote on this matter. Dr. Ryan called for a vote and the results were as follows: Yay – 1, Nay – all voting council members.
- Dr. Darrell Sparks asked about the need for language changes on page three: change Associate Provost to Executive Vice Provost and delete Dean of the Graduate School.

The council agreed to the above-mentioned edits with Dr. Elder being a nay vote.

The motion carried and the AOP was approved.

Meeting adjourned 3:00 PM