

DEANS' COUNCIL MINUTES

January 13, 2014 1:00-3:30 pm – Charles Hunter Room, HCC

Present: Vik Brown (proxy for John Eye), Kurt Harris, Earl Mulderink, John Allred, Robert Eves, Katy Herbold, Julie Taylor, Kim Craft (proxy for Carl Templin), Mark Atkinson, Karen Wilson, Deb Hill, Thom McFarland, Bruce Tebbs, Ray Grant, Eric Freden, Bailey Bowthorpe, Grant Corser, Jim McDonald, Christian Reiner, Shauna Mendini, Patrick Clarke, Jeff Hertig, Jeb Branin, Emilie Ballard, Briget Eastep, Katy Herbold, Todd Peterson, Brandon Street, Jacob Askeroth.

Excused: Carl Templin, John Eye, Bill Byrnes

I. Review of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes. Seconded. **APPROVED.**

II. Visitors/Guests- Information & Discussion Items

President Wyatt Welcome

Provost Cook welcomed President Scott Wyatt, and asked all in attendance to briefly introduce themselves. President Wyatt explained that he is here to listen and learn. He wants to capture what we can from Faculty about what they love about SUU, and find out what can't change, and what should change.

American Studies Center (Kurt Harris, Earl Mulderink)

The Provost congratulated Kurt Harris and Earl Mulderink about opening of the American Studies Center in the Hunan Province of China. The Center is a partnership with Hunan Normal University (HNU), and is the result of a grant that was written by the Global Engagement Center, and awarded by the US Department of State in September of 2012.

Dr. Earl Mulderink gave an inaugural speech about the Civil War at the center's opening on January 7, 2014, and a ribbon tying ceremony took place to signify the partnership between SUU and Hunan Normal. The center is located in the foreign studies college of Hunan Normal. Plans for the center include a lecture series on American culture, community services, film screenings, a book club, musical performances, HNU American Studies faculty research, and English language teaching & tutoring.

Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative (IIC) Award

Dr. Briget Eastep will be going to Washington D.C. to accept a Partners in Conversation Award from the Department of Interior for our IIC program. IIC has been touted, by the BLM, as one of the premier conservation partners

Moving Forward with the EDGE Program (EEC- Briget Eastep, Todd Peterson, Jeb Branin)

This EDGE program, now in its third year, is undergoing examination. Of utmost importance is making sure that we meet the needs of our students. Dr. Todd Peterson has been appointed as the 'go-to' person for the EDGE program. The Provost and Experiential Education Committee have meet with constituencies including students, faculty, and staff, to explore their experiences and concerns as they pertain to EDGE. The major takeaways from these meeting are: 1) we need to continue with some form of experiential learning. 2) There are significant communication problems in the EDGE program and about the EDGE Program. 3) We need to determine if EDGE should be a requirement or an option.

Briget Eastep presented an outline of SUU's Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO's) and EDGE Assessments. In 2012, the EDGE Committee adopted ELOS in its stated learning outcomes. In 2013, the Experience Education Program Survey (Steve Barney) and the EDGE Program Focus Group (Tyler Stillman) took place, with resulting changes integrated into UNIV 1010 and 3925. In 2014, ELO's as

defined by each Center, will be assessed. Brandon Street, Director of Career and Professional Development explained that the EDGE program teaches students valuable workplace skills, such as project management and brainstorming. Students will have amazing things to put on their resume if they complete EDGE. Employers are looking at experience beyond high school, and want to know that students got involved in College.

Jeb Branin is developing a communication strategy to explain how EDGE relates to our engagement centers, and what the functions of the engagement centers are. For a program as large as EDGE, we need an effective and appealing way to provide this information to our students, rather than leaving them to seek it out on their own.

The Experiential Education Committee is working on an improved version of the program, dubbed "EDGE 3.0." The improved program could move from an EDGE requirement to an experiential education requirement. There would be a baseline of experiential Learning, with an option to do EDGE on top of that. We will need to determine how to reinstate the 5 credits that were EDGE requirements back into our degrees.

Discussion:

- There are several misconceptions about what EDGE is. To many students, the EDGE Program looks like one more requirement, and additional work. Students think the program extends time to graduation. We need to be able to demonstrate how EDGE is a manifestation of experiential learning.
- Student who haven't been through the program yet seem to be the most opposed to it. We are starting to see support from Alumni of the EDGE program, and they document their success and testify to the usefulness of the program.
- As far as we know, we are the only university that requires experiential education from all undergraduates. It is a signature program at SUU.
- Students want the program to be more flexible. We need to be flexible with transfer and non-traditional students. Can we give them the EDGE experience without making them take the UNIV 1010 class?
- We need to establish a Statement of Purpose (SOP). What is the intent? If we help our students understand that there is intent to this program, and a statement of purpose, it might have more value for them.
- Students aren't connecting getting a job with the requirement of completing the EDGE program. Having it not be a requirement could be positive- if students wanted a better shot at a job, they'd have to actively pursue the EDGE program.
- If there are alternatives to experiential education, we can't say it's a requirement. If we drop the requirement, we'll have a stratified system- and will lose the equality of education. Only motivated, well-funded students will pursue experiential education if we don't make it a requirement.

What the Best College Teachers Do Workshop Series

Danielle Dubrasky, with the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, has put together a series of workshops based on the chapters of Ken Bain's book, "What the Best College Teachers Do." The workshops are open to all Faculty, and the intent is to provide formal training for all new faculty members as they come in.

III. Action Items

Policy 6.51- Graduate Policies (Mark Atkinson)

Mark Atkinson presented proposed changes to policy 6.51. New language has been added to clarify the Academic Appeal process and the three types of appeals, as well as the composition of an ad hoc appeals committee comprised of the dean of graduate studies, 2 graduate program directors, and the Graduate studies SUUSA student senator. These proposed changes have been approved by the Graduate Council. Dean Eves proposed an amendment to Section IV. A. 1. modifying language to specify that appeals are submitted to the office of the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Motion to approve the policy as amended. Seconded. **APPROVED.**
Policy will move forward to President's Council

FSSF Form Change & Proposed Deadlines for FY15-18 (Jim McDonald)

Faculty Members in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences have requested that the Faculty Scholarly Support Fund applications for the Faculty Project Fund and Faculty Travel Fund be updated to allow applicants 200 words, rather than 100 words, to provide information about their funding history. This will allow applicants to more thoroughly explain the past three projects they have received funding for.

Motion to approve. Seconded. **APPROVED.**

IV. Information/Discussion Items

Board of Trustees Award of Excellence: Process & Timeline (Brad Cook)

Recommendations for the Board of Trustees Award of Excellence are due to the Provost's Office by February 14th. This award is the highest distinction bestowed by our Institution. The Provost's office will collect applications and provide the information to the Board of Trustees, and the Trustees will select the recipient.

Instructional Faculty Workload Report (Bruce Tebbs)

Bruce just completed the Instruction Faculty Workload report and sent it to the Commissioner's office. Regents mandate that faculty teach 12 credit hours/13 contact hours. The report that we submit defends the fact that we are meeting that policy requirement. Our report for Full-time faculty was exactly what is mandated by the Regents: 12 ICH per FTE faculty. The percent of Instruction Student Credit Hours generated by part-time instructors this year was the same as last year, at around 32.5%. Faculty members that are teaching overload averaged 3 ICH. Adjuncts averaged 9 ICH.

New Space for the Center of Excellence for Teaching & Learning (Bruce Tebbs)

College of Education has graciously allowed the Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning to relocate to Room 338 in the Education Building. The space is being converted to allow for expansion, and will have 4 work stations, in a 'sandbox' type setting. An instructional designer and canvas support staff will also be located in this room. One of the intentions of the revised space is to bridge the disconnect between mobile technologies and teaching. It is anticipated that the remodel will be complete by March 1, 2014. Grant Courser, Mark Atkinson, and Christian Reiner will work to produce a flier to distribute to faculty explaining what they can expect from the space. This information will also be presented to faculty senate.

Proposed Revisions to Policy 6.9- Supplemental and Overload Compensation and Consultation (Bruce Tebbs)

Bruce Tebbs and a committee of representatives from faculty, staff association, and human resources examined our supplemental and overload compensation as compared to other USHE Institutions. Policy language was revised to create a better flow of information. We have a consultation policy for general employee, but didn't have one in our Academic Policies. Committee recommended that a policy be created specifically to address overload for professional employee. Human Resource will work on the text for the new policy. If you have any language recommendations, please contact Bruce.

This will be an action item at the 1/27/13 Deans' Council.

Convocations: Spring 2014 Schedule (Raymond Grant)

Raymond Grant reminded the council that the Spring Convocation Series will include 2 special events, as well as 6 speakers. Convocations is partnering with SUUSA for a presentation/workshop from Bluebird Café. The Rory Woodbury Dance Company will hold a creative workshop in partnerships with CPVA. Alfie Kohn will be the Tanner Lecture presenter, and Robert Bennet will present the Driggs Lecture. Portions of these events will be available online. A complete list of events is available on the Convocations website at <http://www.suu.edu/convocations/>

Festival of Excellence (Brad Cook, Aimee Uchman)

The second annual Festival of Excellence will take place on April 8th, 2014. Applications are available online, and must be submitted by February 21, 2014. This year, all student applications will need to be approved by a Faculty Mentor. Classes will be suspended on the day of the Festival, so that students can participate and/or observe. Please remind your students to participate.

V. Reports (2 minutes per report)

Mark Atkinson: The Brazilian Scientific Mobility Program approached SUU and asked us to apply to become a host institution. They want to send students to SUU to study ESL. Our application was approved, and we could receive up to 25 Brazilian students. The ESL program has begun its 15-month self-study for accreditation.

Thom McFarland: Thom reminded the council that SUU has a site license for Adobe Creative Cloud. IT will sponsor a series of lunch-and-learns and webinars to educate campus about our new software.

Bruce Tebbs: Those who committed to pay for a portion of the New York Times subscription will see budget transfers happen in the next few weeks. Three finalists for the Director of Sponsored Research and Contract will be brought to SUU for on-campus during the last week of January.

John Allred: Enrollment is down by about 3%, better than what we expected.

Christian Reiner: The Faculty survey will be underway soon. Please promote it to all Faculty. The survey will capture information about all instructors- adjuncts as well as full-time faculty.

Brad Cook: Some organizational changes are taking place, are we are looking at how General Education, IRB, Sponsor Research and Contracts, and other 'floating' programs can be consolidated under SUU's Office of Institutional Research, headed by Christian Reiner. The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning will be tied into our Institutional Effectiveness Plan, and will now report to Institutional Research/Christian Reiner.

Shauna Mendini: When classes resumed after winter break, CPVA hosted a 2 day boot camp for High School honor bands. Please stop by the Braithwaite Gallery to view the faculty art exhibit

Patrick Clarke: For last several years we have recognized student for the EDGE projects. UC would like to hold a similar event for Faculty, Staff, and Community members, to recognize those who are promoting Experiential Education. The nomination form was emailed to Deans, Presidents Council, and Admins.

Motion for executive session, seconded. APPROVED.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:45 pm.