DEANS’ COUNCIL MINUTES  
Oct 6, 2014– 1:00-3:30 pm – Charles Hunter Room, HCC  

**Present:** John Allred, Mark Atkinson, Bailey Bowthorpe, Gerry Calvasina, Patrick Clarke, Brad Cook, Grant Corser, Emily Dean, Robert Eves, Eric Freden, Jim McDonald, Thomas McFarland, Shauna Mendini, Christian Reiner, James Sage, Tony Salso, Richard Saunders, John Taylor, Bruce Tebbs, Aimee Uchman  

**Excused:** Deb Hill, Carl Templin  

I. Review of Minutes  
Robert Eves motioned to approve minutes from the September 22nd meeting. Mark Atkinson seconded. **Approved.**  

II. Visitors/Guests- Information & Discussion Items  
Accepting DSST/DANTES Exam as a form of Prior Learning Assessment (Patrick Clarke, John Allred, Tony Salso)  
Patrick Clarke explained that the DSST (DANTES Subject Standardized Tests) are a form of prior learning assessment similar to the CLEP tests, where students can obtain credit-by-exam. Many veterans enrolling at SUU that have used DSST exams, and SUU needs to determine if we are willing to accept and approve credits from the exams. Department Chairs and Faculty would need to look at credit given from DSST and make sure it's equivalent to existing courses. Tony Salso recommended being more proactive with our testing, and raising awareness about testing options such as CLEP and DSST at SUU. A maximum of 30 credits from credit-by-exam would be accepted towards a degree. The final approval of credits from DSST would be determined by Department Chairs. Tony requested approval from the Council to continue to pursue acceptance of DSST credits at SUU.  

*Motion to approve by Robert Eves. Seconded by Mark Atkinson. **Approved***  

Testing Center Remodel (Patrick Clarke)  
SUU has been working with an architectural firm to determine how to best use the space. The redesigned center will have designated space for tests that have to be administered, such as PRAXIS, so those tests can take place while students are taking other exams at testing stations. Robert Eves and Richard Saunders requested that they be involved in the planning process for the space.  

Budget & Process (Marvin Dodge & Mitch Bealer)  
Marvin Dodge distributed a handout that mapped the anticipated process for the 2015-16 budget from October 2014 through September 2015.
Marvin is launching a listening campaign this fall, and will meet with departments and colleges/schools to find out what their concerns/issues are with the existing budget process and where bottlenecks are occurring. It is not anticipated that we’ll receive additional financial support from the state in the future. Some E&G budget will roll over from year to year, and departments are encouraged to accumulate these funds when they anticipate a large project. There will not be as much one-time funding available as in previous years. All budget requests from the department and college/school level will be collected by the Budget office. President’s Cabinet will evaluate budget items, once they’ve passed from the department to the college/school level. Budget requests can be submitted through December 2014. Deans Council will pass recommendations along to Presidents Council. Roll-over budget will appear in accounts around September, at the line-item level.

SUU will take a more strategic approach to recruitment. Enrollment projections came in stronger than anticipated this fall, with a drop of around 1% instead of the anticipated 4-6%. By the beginning of March 2015, SUU must address recommendations for Mission, Vision, and Core themes with the Northwest Commission. President Wyatt will assemble a strategic planning task force.

Course and Program Fees
Finance would like cut back on the use of program fees. Our internal audit is examining program fees and how they are used. There will not be massive changes to program fees this year, but in the future there will be a conversation about using funds from the budget to cover what was previously paid for with program fees.

Provost’s Report
The K-16 Alliance, representing 5 counties in the southern portion of Utah, had a meeting at the Iron County School District offices on October 1. The alliance will resubmit its proposal for STEM funding to the legislature. The next alliance meeting takes place on December 10th in St. George, following the SEDC luncheon meeting with Legislators. Alliance members are invited to attend the SEDC Legislative luncheon, and are on the agenda to present information about STEM. The Provost asked Bailey Bowthorpe if SUUSA would be willing to take on the renaming of the current ELC Building as an initiative.

Provost requested that SUUSA Report be added to the Agenda as a standing item.

Equity between Graduate Programs & Enrollment Caps (Mark Atkinson, Brad Cook, Bruce Tebbs)
For graduate level, lecture-based classes, we need to establish parameters for class size that have equity for both graduate Program and Faculty Workload. The reading/writing demands of the course should be factored in to the cap for the course size. When graduate classes are too large, the model can shift from teaching to tutoring. Classes need to be small enough to allow Faculty to provide meaningful feedback. At SUU, section sizes less than 10 are more common that sections greater than 40. If we provide differential pay for additional students above the cap, how will that impact faculty load? If a course is reaches the cap and is split into multiple sections that will increase faculty load. Would we consider using a graduated load until class size hits a specific threshold?

Once the cap is set, we need to determine what will happen to next 5-7 students over the size limit. Would we put students on a wait list? Would we offer differentiation pay to Faculty for students over the set cap? Would we prorate pay until the class size reaches a minimum threshold? Pro-rating classes for faculty member shifts the institutions risk onto Faculty paycheck. The University should responsible for the risk, and provide funding for curriculum to be taught.

Bruce Tebbs shared a spreadsheet (posted on Canvas) that included average enrollment for each graduate program. The council agreed that a cap of 25 would be reasonable, but did not determine a number for minimum enrollment.

Discussion:
- Once we’ve offered one section of a course, what is the obligation for a second section, face-to-face or online?
• Should a minimum threshold be set for a class to determine if the course is taught that semester, or if it is held until enrollment reaches the threshold?
• Could we draw from the directed studies model for the second section of a course? The second section would be a Directed Studies course until enrollment reached 10 students, at which point it would become a Lecture class

Mark Atkinson will share this information with the Graduate council at the October 10th meeting.

Kevin Stein Sabbatical Presentation (Brad Cook)
On October 13 at 12pm, in the Sterling Church Auditorium, Kevin Stein will be presenting an hour long lecture about his sabbatical in China. Kevin, his wife, and their 5 children spent a year in Changsha, China. Faculty are encouraged to attend this event and support Dr. Stein.

General Education
Connection Courses & Presidents Experimental GE Offering (John Taylor)
John Taylor updated the council about progress being made in GE. John was able to pull the first report for ELO’s from Canvas. Three training faculty trainings have been held. John is also willing to provide training specific to departments. The way the system is set up in Canvas impacts the accuracy of the data that is pulled. Please work with John to set up a numbering system that does not conflict with the existing GE ELOs. Mark Atkinson recommended creating a standards guide for ELOs and rubrics in Canvas, specific to SUU, with step-by-step directions. AAC&U value rubrics are posted on the Provost’s Office website for reference. Connection courses/course groups continue to be established, and John is working with colleges to bring FIGs together. If college/schools need assistance in grouping connection courses, they should consult with one of the academic advisors- advisors know which courses students are already connecting and may be able to facilitate connections.

Faculty are excited about the President’s experimental GE Offering. The pilot for this program will have 50 students, and Faculty for the pilot phase have already been selected. If the program expands, these faculty can act as mentors for faculty new to the program. The program will be marketed to all freshman, and the application process is being formulated.

Student Success
Most Challenging Courses Taskforce Update (James Sage)
The Taskforce for SUU’s Most Challenging Courses has met once. It includes representatives from Biology, Math, the Faculty Center, and the tutoring center. James is drafting a “charge” for the task force, to make the results measurable. The taskforce will work to gain a comprehensive vision of the challenges posed by these courses, and how advising, tutoring, the sequencing of curriculum, and pedagogy can be adjusted to help students be more successful.

Faculty Senate (Emily Dean)
The next Faculty Senate meeting will take place October 9th. Anticipated topics of discussion include summer compensation, high-deductible insurance, shared governance and how it pertains to policies at SUU, budget transparency, and computer issues. Emily Dean requested that a laminated instruction guide for technology be placed in each classroom, to make tech more accessible for Faculty that teach in those rooms. Thom McFarland will attend the next faculty senate meeting to discuss any further computer concerns.

Information/Discussion Items
Policies 6.38 & 6.9 (Bruce Tebbs)
Bruce informed the council that the final approved versions of policies 6.38 and 6.9 have been posted to Canvas, and will move along to Faculty Senate.

Reports (2 minutes per report)
Bailey Bowthorpe: SUUSA continues to focus on funding Academic Initiatives for all students rather than focusing funding on specific clubs. SUUSA is working on the student center master plan. SUUSA would like to create an app to assist students with finding jobs on campus and in the community. Ideally, the app
would allow students to search jobs based on their skill-set. Bailey will work with Brandon Street to find out how the information SUU currently has for employment could be integrated into an app.

**James Sage:** UUCC and UGCC meetings will take place on 10/9 and 10/10. The next deadline for submissions to both committees is Nov 21. Paperwork has been completed to adopt the Curriculog program, and the next step will be creating the workflow process and curriculum forms. Three year reports from our five academic programs have been turned in, and James is working with Jim McDonald on the 7 year report for HSS. PVA’s 7-year report was approved by the Trustees and was sent along to the Commissioner's office. Regents recently approved our Masters of Music Education, and the program will now go through national accreditation. The B.S. in Exercise Science was also approved. Upcoming programs under consideration will be discussed at the Deans Council fall retreat.

**Patrick Clarke:** The first of two EDGE celebrations for students will take place on October 16<sup>th</sup>. The Graduate School Fair had a high level of attendance, and a recruiter mentioned that of all the Universities they had attended, SUU students were among the best prepared.

**Shauna Mendini:** The Shakespeare Competition will begin Thursday afternoon, drawing 3,000 students from 3 states to our campus. The competition involves theater, music, and dance. A Chinese delegation recently visited SUU, with 18 guests from various provinces of China, including 4 artists. The artists donated a painting to SUU in memory of Helen Foster Snow. A Helen Foster Snow exhibit is set up on the first floor of the library. CPVA is working on an R-401 for a Music Technology program.

**Richard Saunders:** The annual Library Gala will take place on Saturday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. This year’s theme involves honoring volunteers.

**Bruce Tebbs:** The deadline for program/course fee requests has been set for October 30<sup>th</sup>. All requests must be submitted to Bruce by then.

*Motion for Executive Session. Seconded. Approved*

Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm