Chairs’ Meeting Agenda

March 26, 2013

Meeting convened at 4:01 p.m.

Present: James H. McDonald, Dean, David Admire, Terrie Bechdel, Art Challis, Bryce Christensen, Elise Leahy, Mark Miller, Lynn White, Kristine Frost, Administrative Assistant

1. Christian Reiner discussed the upcoming Northwest Accreditation visit. He stated that TracDat wasn’t performing as well as the administration had hoped. He handed out a paper entitled Examples of Closing the Loop in Assessment of Student Learning. He quoted from the feedback from the last NWCCU re-accreditation visit stating that “The University has yet to fully implement the final two stages of a full assessment program – data summarization and analysis, and evidence that the analysis is used for program imporement. He requested that the Chairs either finish their reports in TracDat or choose one of the versions on the handout. He had everyone commit to finish their report by the end of May. Several Chairs stated that they would like to submit actual class data to strengthen their reports. Christian agreed to this stating that anything that shows that we are assessing, evaluating, making changes and improvements and then re-assessing will help us be accredited.

2. TICE will be having a content review meeting. Matt Hickerson who teaches Humanities 1010 has volunteered to attend the meeting. Political Science will send John Howell who will represent those professors who teach Political Science 1100.

3. Jim stated that the Board of Trustees had approved the sale of 12 ½ acres of land that contain a pristine Fremont site for $135,000. The money will be used for Educational Outreach, Physical Improvement and the rest of the money will be put into an endowment.

4. Jim also stated that the Utah legislature had approved money for mission funding, HSS would be getting several additional faculty. English will hire a full-time lecturer, FHLP will have a full time professor. Sociology and History each hire a full time professor.
5. Department reports
   A. Terrie Bechdel stated that MFSF was in the process of eliminating some emphases. By restructuring, the degree would focus on Investigative Forensics. She has deleted 12 classes and will replace them with classes strengthening the new focus. This will tap the 370 Criminal Justice students that are interested in investigative forensics.
   B. Elise Leahy stated that they had submitted the forms for a world film course. FHLP have applied for another Arabic instructor through the Fulbright Scholars. Jim and Elise have been working on a tuition waiver for the Fulbright Scholar.
   C. Lynn gave an update of the SSW (social service emphasis) The state needs to agree to a word change and they would have approval. They have 17 students and 4 faculty gong to RMPA.
   D. Mark Miller gave an update on Women and Gender Studies.
   E. Art Challis stated that the annual media banquet was April 15th. Kevin got his sabbatical and will be teaching in China next year.
   F. Bryce Christensen stated that Sigma Tau Delta has now been recognized as a campus honor society. The national organization recognized them at the conference in Portland last week. Robert Durbarow was reelected to a national position.
   G. Dave Admire stated that the department was working on a plan to restructure Political Science. They are also working with the History, Sociology and Anthropology department on International week. Rather than discussing nations, they were looking at a thematic approach. They want to bring in an International Criminal Court Judge to talk about war crimes.
   H. Meeting was dismissed at 4:03 p.m.