

Minutes **TO POST**

DEANS COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 1st - 3:00 p.m.

President's Conference Room - Blackwell

PRESENT: John Omachonu (Chair), Rick Cary, Marie Nicholson, Scott Pearson, Cathy Franklin-Griffin, Cathy Adkins, Jim Brown, Phyllis Smith, Bev Robertson, Audrey Martin-McCoy, Tony Floyd, and Danielle Hagerman (recorder).

1. Approval of Minutes - *Approved*

2. Presidential Update

a. BOT Meeting

i. Board worked for over 17 hrs over a course of two days

ii. Joanne Soliday presentation

1. Explained current environment of higher ed across the country
2. Afternoon session – round table, asking BoT how can you help Mars Hill?
 - a. Board is hungry to reach out to veterans
3. How do we defend liberal arts?
 - a. Partnerships
 - b. Retention/help student experience
 - c. AGS is a strong component

iii. Tom Kavic

1. Down the road, interested in composing a mater campus plan
 - a. Focusing on infrastructure (how to buildings help teaching)

iv. Day 2

1. Committee meetings met
2. Main BoT meeting
 - a. Included student's input, Chris Cain's experience in the leadership program
 - b. Brought up faculty salary data to full board
 - c. Approved promotion/tenure

v. Linda Judge McRae

1. Would like to have Deans interact w/BoT without administrator presence
2. Cathy Adkins – would like to invite all trustees to events to increase interaction

b. Charge to Deans

- i. Need help, please take a hard look at divisions, especially regarding the following:
 1. Travel
 2. Program Delivery (both academic and non-academic)
 3. Adjunct / Course Release Overload

3. Dean's Updates

a. Scott Pearson

i. Program review (closure)

1. Computer information systems minor
 - a. No attendees in around a decade
 - b. Following SACS, add admissions and marking to list of informants when closing a program

ii. New Data Analytics Minor

1. Complements a variety of majors

2. Different paths to meet requirements
 3. Intend to have proposal for curriculum committee for next academic year
 4. Determination of hours – still in progress
- b. Marie Nicholson
- i. Grades are due! Reminder that graduation is Saturday May 11th @9:30am
 - ii. Assignment contracts
 1. Still in progress, will be reaching out to Deans regarding questions
4. Assessment Update
- a. Student Learning Assessment Report: Part B – Updates and Proposed Timeline
- i. The document titled *Student Learning Assessment Report: Part B – Updates and Proposed Timeline* was emailed to the Deans Council on April 15 and the Department Chairs Council on April 22. This information was also posted twice in the Daily Announcements for Faculty this week and will be discussed during the next Faculty Meeting. This document serves as a reminder that programs should currently be participating in assessment analysis and reporting activities. It also outlines that the *Student Learning Assessment Report: Part B* template is undergoing revision by a subcommittee of the Assessment Committee and will soon be made available to all faculty. A preliminary proposed timeline for the assessment report collection and review is also included.
- b. Assessment Briefs for Academic Programs
- i. The Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment is introducing a set of short publications referred to as Assessment Briefs this spring to assist with the completion of the *Student Learning Assessment Report: Part B*. The first is titled *Analyzing and Interpreting Assessment Data: Program Assessment Reporting*. The second brief is titled *Reporting Program Assessment Results and Closing the Loop: Guidelines and Reminders*. The plan is to have these publications available to faculty by the end of the week for reference as they are preparing their final reports.
5. Provost Office Updates – John Omachonu
- a. Number of purchase req's have increased
- i. Are these an absolute necessity? Or due to need to use up funds before they disappear
 - ii. Please keep a careful eye on unnecessary spending
- b. ID these challenges
- i. Course Releases
 - ii. Overloads
 - iii. Stipends
 - iv. Small classes
 - v. FYS (using staff to teach)
 - vi. Requesting input to help close the resource gap
- c. Scott Pearson
- i. We have analyzed adjunct/overload data in the past
 1. Helped decrease overall costs
 2. More efficient at delivery of programs
 3. A large issue – curriculum, honoring that promise to students
- d. Nursing Deans Search

- i. Failed search, will be appointing interim. Will announce at a further date
- ii. VPSD – position is advertised, Stephanie McLeskey is serving as chair

6. Adjourn – Next meeting is Wednesday, May 15th at 3pm in the President's Conference Room.