

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

October 22, 2020

Present: Charles McAdams, Vicki Bingham, Edwin Craft, Emily Dabney, Ellen Green, Leslie Griffin, Beverly Moon, Christy Riddle, Jeff Slagell, Jon Westfall

Absent: Billy Moore

Guests: Tomeka Harbin

Call to order: A meeting of the Academic Council was held via Zoom on October 22, 2020. The meeting convened at 8:31 AM with Provost McAdams presiding.

Announcements:

- Rick Munroe has hired Mary Parker Janoush as the new academic fundraiser. Mary Parker will be scheduling Zoom meetings with Deans to discuss their needs/priorities soon.
- Provost McAdams will be emailing a draft of the 2020-2021 fundraising priorities to the deans. All adjustments should be indicated in red and returned to Cheryl Ballard.
- **Preregistration** for the Spring 2021 semester begins on October 26th.

Agenda item	Comments/Discussion	Action taken	Responsible party
Approval of Minutes:	October 8, 2020	Approved.	
Informational Item:			
Action Items:			
Promotion and Tenure Handbook Revision	Items #6 and #9 of the “Portfolio Content” section of the Promotion and Tenure Handbook were revised for clarity as recommended by a faculty member. Motion to approve revisions to the Promotion and Tenure Handbook was made and seconded. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.	Approved.	
Discussion:			
Attendance Policy	Many students have expressed that they feel disconnected from their instructors and campus while completing their online courses whereas faculty have stated that students are not coming to class meetings for face-to-face courses. The current Attendance Policy states that “Students who cannot attend a face-to-face class because they are ill shall notify their instructor of their absence.” Provost McAdams asks Academic Council members to discuss this with their chairs and faculty to see if changes need to be made to the Attendance Policy or if this is an unintended consequence of the predicament created by the COVID-19 pandemic.		Ellen Green
Campus Technology Update	The University ordered 200 laptops for employees, 100 loaner laptops for students and 200 desktop computers for on-campus labs. Computers that are still		

	in good working order are being allocated to other areas on campus. Student laptops will be loaned out to students with the greatest need, therefore, students should tell their faculty if they have technical issues/needs so that the faculty can report to OIT the information of the students with technological challenges. OIT will send an email to faculty about this matter.		
Adjourned:	9:32 AM		
Next Meeting:	Thursday, November 12, 2020 @ 8:30 AM		