

# ACADEMIC COUNCIL

## Minutes

**February 23, 2023**

**Present:** Andrew Novobilski, Josh Armstrong, Vicki Bingham, Emily Dabney, James Gerald, Ellen Green, Leslie Griffin, Jeff Slagell, Josie Welsh

**Absent:** Edwin Craft, Billy Moore, Christy Riddle

**Guests:** Chrisa Mansell, Director of Institutional Research & Planning; Joe Saia, Interim Chair of Commercial Aviation

**Call to order:** A regular meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on February 23, 2023. The meeting convened at 8:31 AM with Provost Novobilski presiding.

Agenda item	Comments/Discussion	Action taken	Responsible party
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda was made by Jeff Slagell and seconded by Emily Dabney. Provost Novobilski asked to add a discussion about commencement to the agenda. All in favor.	<b>Approved.</b>	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2023 meeting was made by Jeff Slagell and seconded by Vicki Bingham. All in favor.	<b>Approved.</b>	
<b>Guest Speakers:</b> Rick Munroe	Rick Munroe shared information about the Development Plan for the Centennial Campaign. The University implemented a capital campaign in effect from 2017-2025 known as the Comprehensive Centennial Capital Campaign, named after the year's 100 <sup>th</sup> year of operation, 2025. This campaign is raising money for the Delta State annual fund, campus academic department support, athletics, Bologna Performing Arts Center, and other non-academic ancillaries important to the university making the campaign a comprehensive campaign. Mr. Munroe emphasized that the Foundation's mission is to help donors help the university.		
<b>Informational Item:</b>			
Cabinet Update	Dr. Leslie Griffin provided an update from the most recent Cabinet meeting.		Leslie Griffin
Faculty Senate Update	Dr. Armstrong had no report, but the next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on March 9 <sup>th</sup> with Kelvin Davis and Bud Sorey expected to attend to discuss First Day Complete. President Caston will be attending the April Faculty Senate meeting.		Josh Armstrong
Institutional Effectiveness and Planning	Dr. Cuevas, the Vice President of SACSCOC, was on campus for an advisory visit earlier this week. Dr. Welsh reported that Dr. Cuevas did not report any major concerns, but there is a lot of work yet to do in a short amount of time.  Provost Novobilski asked Dr. Armstrong and the deans to ask their faculty to please be reachable this summer to help with the self-study process. Provost		Josie Welsh

	Novobilski also asked that the faculty and chairs be told how much he and Executive Committee appreciate their efforts on the writing team, QEP team, and faculty assessment fellows.		
<b>Opportunities for Continuous Improvement:</b>			
<b>Action Items:</b>			
Round 2 of KJW Professional Development Funds	The Research Committee submitted their recommendations for KJW Professional Development funds after reviewing faculty proposals. A motion to accept the recommendations from the Research Committee was made by James Gerald and seconded by Jeff Slagell. <b>8-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</b>		Provost Novobilski
<b>Discussion:</b>			
Spring Commencement	Provost Novobilski asked for feedback regarding the location for spring commencement. Options included having two ceremonies in the BPAC, one or two ceremonies in the coliseum, or holding the event outside. Those in attendance felt the BPAC may be the best option. Provost Novobilski will present the preference to Cabinet. Rick Munroe stated his team will again host a celebratory luncheon but the location is to be determined. Academic Affairs will work with Student Success to host a faculty/volunteer lunch as well.		Provost Novobilski
Updated Website Presence & Faculty Credentials by September 1 (SACSCOC)	Work will soon begin on the online faculty/staff directory. The directory will be cleaned up and standardized first with work to follow on a policy formation regarding the directory.		Josie Welsh
Documented Resolution of Student Complaints and Grade Appeals	Academic Affairs receives and houses records of student appeals and grievances. Dr. Welsh wants to ensure that resolutions to grievances are on file in the Office of Academic Affairs. Knowing the resolution of the grievance will help with data. Dr. Welsh asked deans to forward any dean-level correspondence to her, and asked deans to request the same of chairs for any chair-level correspondence to be placed in the grievance files.		Josie Welsh
<b>Announcements:</b>			
<b>Adjourned:</b>	10:03 AM		
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	Thursday, March 9, 2023, @ 8:30 AM.		