

# ACADEMIC COUNCIL

## Minutes

November 11, 2021

**Present:** Andrew Novobilski, Vicki Bingham, Emily Dabney, Leslie Griffin, Beverly Moon, Billy Moore, Christy Riddle, Jeff Slagell, Andrew Wegmann

**Absent:** Gray Kane, Ellen Green, Edwin Craft

**Guests:** Mike Smith, Chair of Languages & Literature; Gina Jenkins, Chair of Speech & Hearing Sciences

**Call to order:** A regular meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on November 11, 2021. The meeting convened at 8:30 AM with Provost Novobilski presiding.

### Announcements:

| Agenda item                | Comments/Discussion   | Action taken | Responsible party |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------|
| Approval of Minutes:       | October 28, 2021  | Approved.    |                   |
| <b>Informational Item:</b> |   |              |                   |
| Cabinet Update             | <p>Dr. Vicki Bingham provided updates from the Cabinet meetings held on November 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 8<sup>th</sup>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Enrollment and Budget Outlook: Discussions regarding increasing enrollment need to include: prospective student groups being overlooked; better use of scholarships to recruit students; retention of faculty members of provide students with a sense of continuity; a focus on student interests for campus initiatives and events; and building relationships between enrollment management offices and academic departments for better collaborations. All areas of the university must word hard to improve recruitment.</li><li>- Delta State has lost 272 students from fall 2020 to fall 2021, which is a 9.1% decrease (with dual enrollment). Total number of core students (no dual credit students) for fall 2021 is 2,455 which is a 6% decrease from fall 2020. Projected enrollment for fall 2022 is 2,190.</li><li>- The campus-wide forum is scheduled for this afternoon, Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM in the Jacob Conference Center. Topics will include a COVID-19 overview, campus projects, new initiatives (capital improvement funds, new bond funds, golf course development), upcoming events, enrollment challenges and budget impact, alumni/foundation support, marketing strategies</li></ul> |              | Vicki Bingham     |

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|  | <p>for recruitment, plus a question and answer session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Federal mandate for the COVID-19 vaccine – DSU does not have a federal contract containing the vaccination mandate clause at this time, thus, is not bound to the Presidential Executive Order regarding vaccine mandates. However, this could change at any time. If the university receives a federal contract renewal or any amendment that adds the vaccination mandate clause, then the university will have 60 days from the date of execution of the document to comply with the order.</li> <li>- COVID-19 Protocols re. masks – Campus mask requirement will continue system-wide for the fall 2021 semester. Regardless of vaccination status, all persons must properly wear a face covering indoors, except when alone in a personal space or within a small “bubble group”.</li> </ul> |                  |                |
| Faculty Senate Update                      | Dr. Andrew Wegmann has provided a phone number for faculty to submit questions to during the campus-wide forum. Dr. Wegmann’s email address may also be used for submitting questions. No report on Faculty Senate meetings as the next meeting will be next week.   |                  | Andrew Wegmann |
| CIS 600 – Update to Hours (Catalog/Banner) | CIS 600 is a 3-credit hour course, but the hours were incorrectly listed in Banner as variable hours. Hayley Murrell has corrected this error.   |                  | Billy Moore    |
| <b>Action Items:</b>                       |  |                  |                |
| Curriculum Action Request – M.Ed.          | <p>Mike Smith presented a Curriculum Action Request to remove ENG 691 Cumulative Thesis from the M.Ed. in Secondary Education. The course is no longer needed since program evaluations by the Languages &amp; Literature Graduate Studies Committee led to the removal of the written thesis component as a program requirement.</p> <p><b>Motion to approve the removal of ENG 691 from the M.Ed. in Secondary Education curriculum was made and seconded. 8-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</b></p>  | <b>Approved.</b> | Mike Smith     |
| Academic Calendar                          | <p>A draft of the Academic Calendar was presented. After reviewing, the following edits were recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fall 2022 and Spring 2023: Removal of the added 1<sup>st</sup> class cancellation dates (August 1 and January 4 entries) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Per friendly amendment: AC approved adding an additional class cancellation date if and when approved by</li> </ul> </li> </ul>   | <b>Approved.</b> | Emily Dabney   |

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|                      | <p>the VPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fall Semester 2022: Change of date for “early Spring and Spring Intersession semester registration begins” from November 7 to October 31</li> <li>• Fall Semester 2022: Change of reference to “Winter Intersession” in the prior mentioned entry to “Spring Intersession” (as that intersession is technically set up in the spring term)</li> <li>• December Intersession: Change of title to “Spring Intersession”</li> <li>• Spring 2023: Change of reference to “Spring Intersession” for April 3 to “Summer Intersession”</li> <li>• May Intersession: Change of title to “Summer Intersession”</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion to approve the Academic Calendar with recommended edits was made and seconded. 7-approved, 0-nay, 1-abstention. Motion carried.</b></p> |                |                       |
| First Day Complete   | <p>First Day Complete is a program offered by Barnes &amp; Noble College bookstores that ensures all students receive the required course materials in both digital and/or physical format before the first day of class. Course material costs are bundled as part of tuition or course fees.</p> <p><b>Motion for Academic Council to endorse the concept of this program was made and seconded. Tabled until the Barnes &amp; Noble has an opportunity to discuss the benefits with Faculty Senate.</b></p>  | <b>Tabled.</b> | Provost<br>Novobilski |
| <b>Discussion:</b>   |   |                |                       |
| <b>Adjourned:</b>    | 9:45 AM   |                |                       |
| <b>Next Meeting:</b> | Thursday, December 9, 2021 @ 8:30 AM  |                |                       |