

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

November 14, 2019

Present: Charles McAdams, Vicki Bingham, Dave Breaux, Emily Dabney, Beverly Moon, Billy Moore, Cetin Oguz, Christy Riddle, Jeff Slagell

Absent: Edwin Craft, Leslie Griffin

Guests: Elizabeth Swindle, President of the Student Government Association

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on November 14, 2019. The meeting convened at 8:34 AM with Provost McAdams presiding.

Announcements:

Agenda item	Comments/Discussion	Action taken	Responsible party
Approval of Minutes:	October 24, 2019	Approved.	
Informational Item:			
Action Items:			
Cords & Stoles	<p>Current practice at commencement is to allow only honor cords to be worn. Elizabeth Swindle, president of the Student Government Association, petitioned the Council to consider allowing cords/stoles/lapel pins to be worn at Commencement by Greek, athletic and other student organizations.</p> <p>The Registrar will meet with a small group to develop guidelines for university-recognized organizations in good standing to wear cords/stoles/lapel pins at Commencement. Consideration should be given regarding how to recognize students who have distinguished themselves academically. Those guidelines will be discussed and approved at a future Academic Council meeting.</p>	Motion to allow non-academic symbols of recognition at commencement was made and seconded. 7-approved, 0-nay, 1-abstention. Motion carried.	Elizabeth Swindle
Tests and Examinations Policy	Emily Dabney made revisions to the policy because the currently published policy is out of alignment with current practices.	Motion to accept edits to align policy with current practices was made and seconded. 8-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.	Emily Dabney
Discussion:			
Top Ten Academic Affairs Issues	Provost McAdams presented the results of an EAB survey about the top ten Academic Affairs Issues. Most of the items on the list have been previously discussed by the Provost. Dr. McAdams also presented a list of strategies for		Provost McAdams

	<p>departments to implement to address the enrollment and demographic concerns facing higher education. These strategies consist of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adapt academic programs to attract different markets. 2. Consider how and when we offer our programs in order to increase access for new student markets. 3. Create partnerships with entities that need an educated workforce. 4. Reach beyond the Delta and the State of Mississippi for new students. 5. Redesign face-to-face courses with the same emphasis on QM standards as we do with online courses. 6. Keep an open mind, and remain open to change and experimentation. 		
Adjourned:	10:21 AM		
Next Meeting:	Thursday, December 12, 2019 @ 8:30 AM		