

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

November 20, 2023

Present: Vicki Bingham, Edwin Craft, James Gerald, Ellen Green, Leslie Griffin, Tomeka Harbin, David Hebert, Chris Jurgenson, Kristen Land, Joi Phillips, Merideth Van Namen, Josie Welsh

Absent: Emily Dabney

Guests:

Call to order: A called Academic Council meeting was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on November 20, 2023. The meeting convened at 11:00 AM with Interim Provost Leslie Griffin presiding.

Discussion:

SACSCOC Report

- Dr. Josie Welsh presented the offsite findings from the SACSCOC report and discussed what the next steps will be.
- SACSCOC was complimentary of Human Resources and the JAQ procedure.
 - The mean for Selected Descriptive Statistics (the number of principles cited per institution) is 15.7; Delta State University scored 15.
 - Delta State University was not dinged on the most cited standard that 95% of institutions are cited on, which is standard 6.2.a (Faculty Qualifications)
 - The standards in which DSU was cited by the off-site committee include:
 - 6.2.b (Program Faculty); 54% of institutions are cited on this standard.
 - 8.2.a (Student Outcomes: Ed. Program); 47% of institutions are cited on this standard.
 - 13.2 (Financial Documents); 43% of institutions are cited on this standard.
 - 8.2.c (Student Outcomes: Student Success); 41% of institutions are cited on this standard.
 - The areas noted for non-compliance in the focused report include:
 - Academic Policies
 - The implementation of Policy-Stat software will be coming soon.
 - Evidence of implementation of the policies was missing from the documentation. The requirements for all policies include: 1) Must be in writing 2) Available 3) Reviewed regularly 4) Followed.
 - Planning (Strategic Planning; Administrative Effectiveness)
 - Steps are being made to move forward on a new strategic plan.
 - Looking further into assessments on effectiveness for non-academic units.
 - Finance (Stable Base; Audit; Internal Control)
 - Budgetary procedures were complimented.
 - The audit was due October 15th, but it was not received until November. Dr. Welsh will meet with the finance team to respond to this citation.
 - SACSCOC expressed concern about open positions in internal controls.
 - Board of Trustees Self-Evaluation
 - SACSCOC would like to see several years of evaluations.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student Outcomes (Academic Programs, General Education, Academic and Student Services) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessment should include: 1) The goal 2) the target 3) the finding 4) the discussion 5) the action plan. - Program Faculty – Psychology; Graduate Credit Hours; Student Identity Verification; Curriculum Workflow; Library Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Program Faculty – Psychology; amount of full-time faculty ▪ Graduate Credit Hours; verification of hours transferred ▪ Student Identity Verification; need evidence that students are informed of fees before signing up for courses ▪ Curriculum Workflow; The Provost's signature was missing from some forms, but the explanation will include that the provost chairs Academic Council, so Academic Council approval is approval from the provost. ▪ Library staff; two interim positions on staff • Dr. Welsh stated she needed the most assistance with assessment and policies, specifically General Education, Academic Policies, and 8.2 (ABC). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Committees were formed to assist with the areas needing assistance. - The committee working on academic policies will be chaired by Dr. Van Namen. Dr. Leslie Griffin, Dr. Edwin Craft, and Ms. Kristen Land will also serve on the committee. Preferably two more people will volunteer to help. - The committee that will work on 8.2 (ABC) will consist of one faculty member from each college. - Dr. Griffin asked all deans to send names sometime this week of other faculty members who will serve on the assessment and policy committees. - Dr. Jurgenson stated he could put out a call for assistance from Faculty Senate as well. - In the meantime, assessments will be collected and forwarded to Talbot Brooks for review and analysis. 		
Adjourned:	1:37 PM		
Next Meeting:	Thursday, December 14, 2023, @ 8:30 AM.		