

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

June 4, 2020

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

Absent:

Guests:

Call to order: A meeting of the Academic Council was held via Zoom on June 4, 2020. The meeting convened at 8:34 AM with Provost McAdams presiding.

Announcements:

| Agenda item | Comments/Discussion | Action taken | Responsible party |
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| Approval of Minutes: | May 14, 2020 | Approved with submitted edits. | |
| Informational Item: | | | |
| Summer Enrollment Update | Summer 2020 undergraduate enrollment is up slightly and graduate enrollment is up significantly with a 34% increase over both summer sessions. | | Dr. Beverly Moon |
| Academic Readiness Task Force | The Academic Readiness Task Force has been created in response to a recent student survey of Delta State University students stating that they prefer face-to-face delivery of instruction when possible. The Academic Readiness Task Force will be devising an implementation plan for the fall semester so that some face-to-face interaction at a safe distance in the classroom is available and clear direction will be provided to faculty, staff and students. | | Dr. Charles McAdams |
| Action Items: | | | |
| Graduate Catalog Readmission Policy | A revised version of the graduate readmission policy, to address specifically those students who have stopped out of coursework for more than one year, was presented. The updated version would state “Graduate students who have stopped out of coursework for more than one year, have withdrawn in good standing from the University, or have been suspended for academic deficiencies or for other reasons should submit their application for readmission to the Graduate Studies Office. The college or school dean must approve applications for readmission by students who have been suspended for academic deficiencies.” Motion to approve the revised graduate readmission policy was made and seconded. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried. | Approved. | Dr. Beverly Moon |
| Curriculum Action Request – Nursing | <i>Curriculum Action Request:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Deletion of role concentration Nurse Administrator in the Master of Science in Nursing degree and the Post-Master’s Certificate</i> | Approved. | Dr. Vicki Bingham |

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| | <p>There had been no enrollment in this role concentration for the past 10 years for either the degree and/or certificate and not requested by potential applicants.</p> <p>Motion to approve deletion of role concentration Nurse Administrator in the Master of Science in Nursing degree and the Post Master’s Certificate was made and seconded. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</p> <p>Motion to approve revised 2020-2021 catalog reflecting the deletion was made and seconded. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</p> | | |
| Academic Calendar Revision | <p>Each Mississippi IHL institution is revising their fall academic calendars due to the global pandemic. Provost McAdams presented a revised fall academic calendar for Delta State University with a class start date of Monday, August 17th; no fall break; exams would begin Thursday, November 19th through Monday, November 23rd including Saturday, November 21st; commencement would be scheduled for Tuesday, November 24th and students would not return to campus after the Thanksgiving break. The purpose of these changes is an effort to avoid possible disruptions to the fall semester and to limit exposure of illnesses from faculty, staff and students that may have traveled during the Thanksgiving holiday. While the revised calendar is slightly short of the 2250 minutes, determinations will be made if a waiver needs to be filed with the Department of Education and SACSCOC.</p> <p>Motion to approve the revised academic calendar was made and seconded. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</p> | Approved. | Dr. Charles McAdams |
| Attendance Policy & Catalog Revisions | <p>In an effort to remove barriers for students staying home when ill, Provost McAdams presented a revision to the Class Attendance policy which states “The 2020-2012 Academic Year is significantly impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic. It is essential to the health and safety of students, faculty and staff that we adhere to the CDC recommendation to ‘stay home if you are sick.’ Students who cannot attend a face-to-face class because they are ill shall notify their instructor of their absence. Students shall engage the course content using the course’s Canvas shell to complete missed work due to illness. Students are allowed to make up assignments, quizzes, tests, major presentations, or other graded course activities missed due to illness. Proof of illness from a medical professional is not required, but may be submitted if it is available.”</p> <p>Motion to approve revision to the Attendance policy was made and seconded. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</p> | Approved. | Dr. Charles McAdams |

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| Discussion: | | | |
| Adjourned: | 9:42 AM | | |
| Next Meeting: | Thursday, June 25, 2020 @ 8:30 AM | | |