

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

August 24, 2023

Present: Vicki Bingham, Edwin Craft, Emily Dabney, James Gerald, Ellen Green, Leslie Griffin, David Hebert, Chris Jurgenson, Kristen Land, Joi Phillips, Josie Welsh

Absent: Tomeka Harbin

Guests: Chrisa Mansell, Director of Institutional Research, Effectiveness and Planning; Lisa Cooley, Interim Assistant Dean of the College of Business & Aviation; Missey Hudson, International Student Services Coordinator

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on August 24, 2023. The meeting convened at 8:32 AM with Hayley Murrell presiding.

Agenda item	Comments/Discussion	Action taken	Responsible party
Approval of Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda was made by James Gerald and seconded by Ellen Green. All in favor.	Approved.	
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2023 meeting was made by Chris Jurgenson and seconded by Vicki Bingham. All in favor.	Approved.	
Guest Speakers: President Dan Ennis	President Ennis has compiled an ad hoc search committee to identify an interim provost to serve for the remainder of this academic year with a national search to begin soon as well. The search committee overseeing the national search will be appropriate, functional, and representative of all areas of academic affairs.		
Informational Item:			
Cabinet Update	Dr. Ellen Green provided updates from the most recent Cabinet meetings.		Ellen Green
Faculty Senate Update	<p>Dr. Chris Jurgenson shared that Faculty Senate met last week and some faculty have concerns about transparency on program reviews and open positions (i.e. why some positions have been filled while others have not). Dr. Jurgenson spoke with President Ennis about that further and Dr. Ennis will be addressing those concerns.</p> <p>Faculty Senate is working to form a collegiality committee, but a meeting date has not been scheduled yet. The faculty handbook committee will meet next week and the AUP group, which faculty are invited to join, will meet September 5th in the cafeteria.</p> <p>A secretary has not been chosen for Faculty Senate, therefore Dr. Jurgenson has been serving as Faculty Senate President and Secretary.</p>		Christopher Jurgenson
Institutional Effectiveness and	Dr. Welsh reminded everyone to please be prompt with their responses when		Josie Welsh

Planning Update	she requests information for SACSCOC, responding within 24 hours of the original request.		
Opportunities for Continuous Improvement:			
Action Items:			
New Business: Spantran	<p>As part of the international admissions process, DSU requires that all non-US transcripts be evaluated by an approval evaluation company. Motion to replace Global Credential Evaluators, Inc. (GCE) with Spantran for both undergraduate and graduate admissions was made by James Gerald and seconded by Emily Dabney. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</p> <p>In addition, a motion for transcript evaluations from other NACES-accredited companies to be considered on a case-by-case basis was made by James Gerald and seconded by Vicki Bingham. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.</p>	Approved.	Kristen Land
New Business: Incomplete Wording on Faculty Rights & Responsibilities Policy	The Faculty Rights and Responsibilities policy has incomplete/cutoff sentences on the DSU policy website and this must be corrected. James Gerald made a motion for Ellen Green to ask Cabinet about policies that are incorrectly published by Human Resources. This motion was seconded by Leslie Griffin. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.	Approved.	Josie Welsh
Old Business: Faculty Engagement/Engaged Educator Awards	It was recommended that Faculty Senate President Chris Jurgenson invite either Dr. David Hebert or Dr. Edwin Craft to the next Faculty Senate meeting to discuss what faculty may find effective about the awards. This conversation will be discussed further at the next Academic Council meeting.	Tabled.	Josie Welsh
Old Business: Faculty Course Evaluations	The online course evaluations differ from the face-to-face course evaluations, and the explanation for this could be because the online version is newer. A motion was made by Leslie Griffin and seconded by Ellen Green to form a task force to review the course evaluation process and response rates. The first charge of this task force would be to review the effectiveness of online evaluations; the interim provost will assign members to this task force and return a short-term goal by October 1 st . 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.		Josie Welsh
Other: Budget Sheets	Edwin Craft made a motion to publish academic budget sheets to Deans and Vicki Bingham seconded the motion. 10-approved, 0-nay, 0-abstention. Motion carried.		Edwin Craft
Discussion:			
Enrollment Update	Chrisa Mansell provided an enrollment update. Currently, 2,800 students are enrolled; 290 are dual credit students, and 2,510 are DSU students, which is 120 more students than last year's 15 th class day marker. 52		

	students were removed from courses during the purge process.		
Department/Division Chair Policy	Dr. Welsh asked that anyone who has information on the chair policy, or directives for department/division chairs please forward that information to Dr. David Hebert to utilize in the FCTL.		
Announcements:			
Adjourned:	10:35 AM		
Next Meeting:	Thursday, September 14, 2023, @ 8:30 AM.		