

Associate Deans Council
May 10, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Ryan, Tim Chamblee, Angie Chrestman, John Dickerson, Randy Follett, Nancy Fultz, Becky Gardner, Christine Jackson, Terry Jayroe, Rebecca Long, Ben Mackin, Lynda Moore, Tabor Mullen, Ian Munn, Allison Pearson, Mike Rackley, Nicole Rader, Kevin Rogers, Susan Seal, James Warnock, Scott Willard.

Guest: Rodney Pearson

Peter Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in the 4th floor conference room, Lee Hall.

1. Consideration of the minutes.

Upon a motion made by Kevin Rogers and seconded by Rebecca Long, the minutes of April 26, 2017 were approved as presented.

2. Announcements.

- Peter Ryan thanked the Associate Deans and all responsible for preparing students to graduate and for attending the ceremony of the largest class to date at the university.
- Orientation sessions have begun - the date for the next orientation session is May 22nd for transfer students.

3. Overrides and Academic Forgiveness.

- Peter Ryan stated that the Provost office is still receiving requests for academic forgiveness for courses re-taken without requesting the academic forgiveness in Banner. These courses are granted an override and registered for before completed (no grade posted), thus there is no prompt to activate the request to retake the course with academic forgiveness. An override can be granted, but the student needs to be reminded to go back into the Banner system after grades are posted and request to retake the forgiveness eligible course.
- Dr. Ryan stated that sometime when an override for retake is granted before grades are posted, it may take away an opportunity for another student to take that course (first time) needed toward their degree. He asked that advisors be encouraged to have a student wait until grades are posted before obtaining an override and/or registering for the course until grades are posted and the retake course(s) are posted in Banner.

4. Student Retention.

- Rodney Pearson, Director for Student Success presented proposed items that could better serve students and assist in student retention. A handout with data showing student performance was provided for discussion of the two items for consideration: Replacing D & F grades with no credit (NC) grades for Eng. I & II and College Algebra; and re-thinking GPA hours in AOP 12.16 Academic Suspension.
- There are several SEC universities that are already replacing grade of D and F with “no credit” for the three (3) courses, College Algebra, English Comp I and Comp II.
- The NC grade would not count in the calculation of the student’s GPA. It would count as credit hours for course load. The student would be able to repeat the course to earn a C or higher grade and credit for the course. The idea would be to help a student maintain the GPA to continue in their degree/education.

- Discussion followed with concerns such as the NC grade being unfair to the instructor who is investing time, a student's number of absences, and some majors may allow a "D" toward the degree. There was also suggestion to allow the instructor to determine the NC option. Some members were in favor of the proposals and some opposed, and, as noted, the matter would need to be discussed with faculty for feedback.
- The second item proposed was the consideration of a revision of the GPA hours in AOP 12.16 Academic Suspension.
- There was discussion of the proposal to adjust the GPA hours/MSU cumulative GPA for students suspended.
- After discussion, all were in favor to recommend the proposed revisions to the policy. However, Rodney Pearson will review the data again for accuracy of the numbers of GPA hours. The AOP will be brought back to ratify at a later meeting.

5. AOPs – None

6. Announcements.

- John Dickerson expressed thanks for help during the commencement ceremony. He reported on the percentage of students who participated and the challenges of commencement issues.
- John Dickerson reported on the upcoming orientation sessions. He encouraged pre-scheduling and asked to let his office know of any issues.
- Tim Chamblee reported on the IHL initiative, Complete 2 Compete and the launch of an adult learner survey sent to currently enrolled adult students (24 years and older).
- Mike Rackley reported on the system in Banner to allow assigning student advisors. He provided a handout with a list of names provided by colleges who will be responsible for assigning advisors in Banner – let him know of any changes. He encouraged attending one of the training sessions scheduled for May 11 and May 16 in Union Fowlkes Auditorium.
- Ben Mackin reported on the out-of-state summer scholarships awarded to seven students.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.