

Associate Deans Council
February 9, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Ryan, Tracey Baham, Jim Dunne, Anastasia Elder, Randy Follett, Brent Fountain, Nancy Fultz, Don Grebner, Robert Green, Kim Hall, Jeffrey Haupt, Brien Henry, Deborah Lee, Melanie Loehwing, Tabor Mullen, Steve Parrott, Kevin Rogers, Susan Seal, Michael Seymour, Darrell Sparks, Lisa Stricklin, Carrie Rybolt, Lauren Wright, Link Logan, Jermaine Jackson, Wes Burger, Jan Fitzgerald, Chris Dallager, Tina Gilliland

Dr. Peter Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

1. Consideration of the minutes

Upon a motion made by Dr. Kevin Rogers and a second by Dr. Randy Follett, the minutes from January 26, 2022, were approved.

2. Announcements:

- There will be a doctoral graduation ceremony on May 11, 2022, at 3:00 PM in Bettersworth Auditorium in Lee Hall. The Graduate School will host a reception in Foster Ballroom in the Colvard Student Union immediately following the ceremony. More information will be forthcoming from the Graduate School. This will be the only event in which doctoral students will be recognized during commencement exercises for spring 2022.

3. Disability Resource Center Update – Mr. Chris Dallager

- The Disability Resource Center (DRC) will no longer deliver tests to the faculty member. Faculty can pick up tests at the DRC (Montgomery Hall - ground floor, room 7) or faculty can request to have DRC scan and send the completed test.
- Student accommodated test requests now require three business days advance notice. This provides an additional day to ensure adequate time for communication between faculty and the DRC staff.
- Disability Resource Center will undergo an external review February 24-25, 2022. Faculty, student, or staff who would like to be part of the communication with the reviewers, please let Mr. Dallager know.
- Captioning support can now be provided by the DRC when it is required for a student accommodation. Instructors should contact the DRC to discuss material requiring captions.
- Please encourage your faculty to include the required disability statement in their class syllabus. The statement can be found here:
<https://www.instructionalguide.msstate.edu/resources/syllabus-statements>

4. AOP's

➤ **AOP 12.32: Refund and Course Credit for Student Members of The Military Called to Active Duty or Deployed**

A motion was made by Dr. Melanie Loehwing and a second by Dr. Robert Green to accept the policy as presented and was open for discussion.

After a very brief discussion, the policy was approved with no edits and will now be forwarded to the Deans Council for review.

➤ **AOP 13.11: Academic Freedom**

A motion was made by Dr. Jeffrey Haupt and a second by Dr. Melanie Loehwing to accept the policy as presented and was open for discussion.

Dr. Jeffrey Haupt asked if this policy extends protection inside the classroom from other faculty members, within the department, that may prefer another stylistic approach. Dr. Ryan stated that faculty should be sensitive to the freedom of interpretations, and this may be more of a departmental topic rather than a policy related question.

After further discussion, Dr. Ryan suggested tabling this policy and forming a sub-committee from ADC to gather more information. Group members will be Dr. Melanie Loehwing, Dr. Jeffrey Haupt, Professor Michael Seymour, and Dr. Peter Ryan.

AOP 13.11 is tabled for further review by the group listed above.

5. New Business:

- Dr. Jeffrey Haupt inquired about a master list of half-time (e.g. 8-week) courses that is easily accessible. Associate Dean of Students Tabor Mullen stated this information could be obtained from Dr. Clay Armstrong.
- Dr. Deborah Lee announced the LibQual+ survey is open for students, faculty, and staff. More information can be found at <https://www.library.msstate.edu/news/2022/02/take-libqual-survey-win-free-starbucks>
- Ms. Nancy Fultz reminded everyone that the Advising Awards notification was recently sent via email. The nomination deadline is Monday, March 21, 2022. Dr. Ryan encouraged ADC members to nominate deserving academic advisors for these recognition awards. Please contact Ms. Nancy Fultz at nfultz@provost.msstate.edu for more information.

Adjourned 2:40 PM