

Associate Deans Council
June 22, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Ryan, Tracey Baham, Jim Dunne, Anastasia Elder, Cameron Fox, Robert Green, Kim Hall, Brien Henry, Christine Jackson, Deborah Lee, Melanie Loehwing, Bethany Mills, Lynda Moore, Tabor Mullen, Steve Parrott, Kevin Rogers, Susan Seal, Michael Seymour, Darrell Sparks, Lisa Stricklin, Emily Shaw, Kristen Sendelweck, 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. Robert Green, the minutes from May 11, 2022, were approved.

2. Announcements

- Fall Convocation will be held on August 23, 2022, at 5:30 PM in Humphrey Coliseum. Due to ongoing construction at the coliseum, access and entry to the Coliseum will be slightly different from previous years. Additionally, Transit and Parking services will work on a plan for shuttle drop off locations & will be determined closer to the date of the event and dependent on renovation progress as well as some streets may be closed. Rather than having a reception, the President's Office will offer MSU Ice Cream and bottled water – likely under a tent outside the Coliseum at one of the main exit points, following Convocation. Additionally, the coin distribution will take place at this tent location rather than as the students enter the Coliseum to reduce congestions during seating of students.
- New Faculty Orientation is scheduled for August 11, 2022, at the Bost Conference Center. The President's Welcome Reception will begin immediately following orientation and will also be held at the Bost Conference Center.
- Pivot-RP is an online tool accessible using a web browser to provide quick and easy access to the right research opportunities, funding, and people. Pivot-RP provides global and local connections that strengthen research by exploring new avenues for funding and collaboration – for faculty, staff researchers, and students. Pivot-RP is accessible using the MyState portal. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Sendelweck, Research Development Coordinator, Office of Research Development at kristen@ord.msstate.edu. Dr. Ryan suggested that Ms. Sendelweck be invited to attend college department head meetings and present this program to the department heads so that they can promote this new service to the faculty in their home departments.
- Ms. Emily Shaw announced that the Change of Major electronic form is almost ready and will be available in eForms so departments can start building their groups. Plans are to go live with this in the fall semester. Ms. Shaw and Dr. Ryan provided a PowerPoint document to council members, prior to the meeting.
- Dr. Anastasia Elder announced the Undergraduate Research Showcase will be held on August 2nd in Griffis Hall. Submission deadline is July 15. Volunteers are needed to help. Please contact Dr. Elder to volunteer.

3. Academic Program Review Process – Dr. Peter Ryan

- As part of our accreditation process by SACSCOC, the university is required to conduct reviews of all academic programs/units that do not undergo an accreditation review. The Provost's Office is slightly behind schedule, due to the pandemic, however, we will begin this process very soon. The review process consists of a self-study, an internal review, and an external review with an on-site visit. This process is intended to be constructive and to ensure we are on pace with current developments in the field of study and to be the absolute best we can be.

4. Thrive in Five Program – Dr. Tracey Baham

- Dr. Tracey Baham noted that SACSCOC standard 9.2 states that the degree program length for a bachelor's degree needs to be no less than 120 hours. It also states that a graduate degree should be 30 hours beyond the bachelors. Any combination of accelerated programs that results in fewer than 150 credit hours could raise red flags with SACSCOC. There are some programs where double counting of too many courses for the graduate and undergraduate degrees could be a problem and needs to be addressed. Guidelines will be forthcoming to ensure the correct number of hours that can be shared between the baccalaureate and a master's degree in the accelerated program (Thrive in Five).
- Dr. Peter Ryan indicated that to participate in the Thrive in Five accelerated degree program a student must be in Junior standing and hold a GPA 3.50. The number of shared credit hours between the baccalaureate and master's degree programs will be limited to be in compliance with the SACSCOC standard 9.2. Typically, the maximum number of shared course credit hours is nine graduate level course credit hours for a 120-hour baccalaureate coupled with a 30-hour master's program. The number may vary depending on the required hours for the baccalaureate and the master's degree in an accelerated program. This does not prevent a student from attempting more than nine graduate level course credit hours as an undergraduate, they just cannot use all of them as meeting degree requirements for both degrees in an accelerated program.
- Ms. Emily Shaw stated Engineering is the only department receiving a dual degree attribute, and she and Dr. Ryan will investigate the expansion of the use of the same attribute for all accelerated degree programs.

5. Teaching Portfolio Workshop and New Faculty Teaching Academy Canvas Courses – Professor Michael Seymour

- The Center for Teaching and Learning is offering professional development asynchronously online.
- The Teaching Portfolio Workshop was held during Maymester with seventy-seven people registered.
- The New Faculty Teaching Academy will be held on July 26 – August 14, asynchronously online with face-to-face elements.
- Badges can be earned for completed assignments.

Adjourned 2:45 PM