

Associate Deans Council Meeting Minutes of October 22, 2025

Present: Tracey Baham, Thomas Bourgeois, Sawyer Bowering, Steve Bullard, Tracy Craven, Jim Dunne, Anastasia Elder, Keegan Figueroa, Brent Fountain, Dana Franz, Robert Green, Kim Hall, Brien Henry, Christine Jackson, Dominic Lippillo, Melanie Loehwing, Bethany Mills, Lynda Moore-White, Tabor Mullen, David Nolen, Alicia Olivier, Sean Owen, Andy Perkins, Matthew Priddy, Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, Kevin Rogers, Carrie Rybolt, Emily Shaw, Courtney Siegert, Darrell Sparks, Lisa Stricklin, Shelby Tschume, Cat Walker, Lauren Wright, Madeline Demetriou

Dr. Tracey Baham called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

1. Consideration of the Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Robert Green and seconded by Dr. Kevin Rogers to accept the minutes from October 8, 2025. Following an addition by Dr. Melanie Loehwing and corrections made by Dr. Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, the minutes were unanimously approved.

2. Updates from the Chair

- Dr. Baham shared that four AOPs sent from the Associate Deans Council were passed at the most recent Deans Council meeting.
- Dr. Baham informed the council that a rewritten HRM 60.201 is in the Executive Council queue. Several updates have been made to align with state and federal changes.
- Dr. Baham recently attended the SACSCOC R1 Summit and shared several updates. SACSCOC announced that all principles will be rewritten and are open for interpretation and discussion, including the current substantive change policy.

3. Discussion about setting registration totals based on AOP 12.22: Undergraduate Student Course Load

- Ms. Emily Shaw and Ms. Carrie Rybolt presented a schematic of course load limits to be used for implementing AOP 12.22. These course limits indicate how many credit hours Banner will allow students to enroll in full semester or in mini-terms without needing additional approvals; however, Banner cannot restrict credit hour limits for the combination of mini-term and full-term semesters in accordance with the AOP 12.22 guidelines. Ms. Shaw and Ms. Rybolt presented a potential scenario in which Banner course limits for the Fall and Spring mini-terms are increased from 7 to 9 hours and Summer I & II terms are decreased to 6 hours. Banner does not have the capability to restrict hours by part of term, but only for the total term.
- Council deliberated the merits of these adjustments and agreed that the number of students exclusively in mini-terms who would need overrides to take additional courses is lower than the potential number of students enrolled in both mini-terms and full-term

courses. Therefore, Council rejected increasing the mini-term limits from 7 hours to 9 hours and approved decreasing Summer I & II terms to 6 hours.

- Dr. Rogers motioned for a resolution that AOP 12.22 will be implemented starting with the Fall 2026 semester. Council members voted to approve.

4. AOP 12.09 Class Attendance & Reporting Absences

Dr. Anastasia Elder motioned and Dr. David Nolen seconded the AOP 12.09 Class Attendance & Reporting Absences.

- This policy returned to the Associate Deans Council after modification at Faculty Senate.
- Dr. Baham prefaced the discussion of AOP 12.09 by noting that Military Affairs and the Disability Resource Center have proposed revisions that will need to be considered. A subcommittee will likely need to be formed to discuss those revisions.
- Dr. Thomas Bourgeois noted that the Dean of Students Office acknowledged that it cannot verify or enforce verification for many of the items on the bulleted list of approved excused absences. He is concerned that the new revision suggesting an asynchronous class day is not comparable for courses with labs or field work.
- Dr. Matthew Priddy spoke on behalf of Faculty Senate and stated that when the policy returned to Faculty Senate following the previous Associate Deans Council revision, they took consideration from the council and compromised by adding the presidential election absences as its own statement rather than as a part of the bulleted list. Council members agreed that Faculty Senate had made an effort to incorporate the committee's concerns.
- Dr. Anastasia Elder motioned and Dr. Steve Bullard seconded to accept the policy as presented by Faculty Senate. Council passed AOP 12.09 Class Attendance & Reporting Absences as presented by Faculty Senate with a vote of 11 in favor and 3 opposed.
- Council acknowledged that the policy will need a subcommittee to rework some components for disability accommodation and student affairs considerations. These will be discussed in a future meeting.

5. Announcements

- Ms. Lynda Moore-White announced that the College of Integrative Studies is holding a recruitment event for the Gulf Scholars Program. The interest meeting will be held October 29 from 12:30-1:30 in the Colvard Student Union.
- Prof. David Nolen invited the council to a Night in the Archives hosted by the Mitchell Memorial Library on October 24, 2025, at 5:30. The event will celebrate the newly renovated Archives and Special Collections on the third floor of the library.
- Dr. Jim Dunne requested that AOP 12.02 Withdrawal from the University be brought forward at a future meeting to discuss changing the W date.

Meeting adjourned 2:30 pm