

June 7, 2007

TO: Provost's Council

FROM: Judith M. Bowman
Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Studies

SUBJ: Provost's Council Agenda for Tuesday, June 12, 2007

The Provost's Council will meet on Tuesday, June 12 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. The following agenda items will be discussed.

1. Approval of the May 8 minutes (see attachment, p. 1-3)
2. Concern on Classes Scheduled During Activity Hour (see attachment, p. 4)
3. Development of a Fund to Support Untenured Faculty Members (see attachment, p. 5)

Bill Graves
4. State Funding Priorities

Tom Isenhour
5. Policies for Research Centers
 - A. Faculty Policies – Tom Isenhour (see attachment, p. 6)
 - B. Graduate Programs – Phil Lenglais (see attachment, p. 7-11)
 - C. Undergraduate Programs – Charles Wilson
6. Announcements
 - A. 2008 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards (see attachment, p. 12-13)

C: Mohammad Karim
Michael McGinnis

PROVOST'S COUNCIL
MINUTES
June 12, 2007

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, June 12 from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. Those present were Tom Isenhour (Chair), Nancy Bagranoff, Andrew Balas, Oktay Baysal, Andy Casiello, Chandra de Silva, Bill Drewry, Bill Graves, Phil Langlais, Ginny O'Herron, Joe Rule, and Charles Wilson. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The May 8 minutes were approved.

2. Concern on Classes Scheduled During Activity Hour

Tom Isenhour noted that the University Chaplains Association has expressed concern about classes, labs and rehearsals scheduled during activity hour. There may be some legitimate reasons to schedule classes during activity hour, such as clinical placements. Dr. Isenhour asked the Deans to discuss this issue with chairs and ensure that activity hour is not abused.

3. Development of a Fund to Support Untenured Faculty Members

Bill Graves discussed a fund at Washington & Lee University that assists untenured faculty members in meeting the costs of publishing books and articles and asked about establishing a similar fund at ODU. Tom Isenhour expressed interest in finding out the extent of the problem on our campus. He asked Bill Graves and Oktay Baysal to design a questionnaire to obtain information from our faculty regarding what type of financial assistance would be helpful to them as they seek to publish books and articles.

4. State Funding Priorities

Tom Isenhour informed Council members that the state funding priorities for the next budget will be transportation projects, access to pre-K and K-12 quality education, access to quality health care, and safeguarding the environment.

5. Policies for Research Centers

Council members discussed the draft Policy on Tenure-Track Positions Funded by Research Centers. They endorsed the draft policy with one minor revision. The policy will be forwarded to President Runte and, if she approves, it will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for review and comment.

Phil Langlais distributed a revised version of the document on proposed organizational management of interdisciplinary graduate programs, specifically the modeling and simulation program. The proposal establishes University-level coordination that does the following: distributes resources among the various participants in response to program plans and commitments; provides high-level coordination across programs to maintain minimum standards and avoid unnecessary duplication; arbitrates when disagreements arise; and assists and encourages each college to participate to their full capability in the growth and quality of the graduate program. The Office of Graduate Studies is responsible for the overall coordination of the interdisciplinary program. Two committees will be established, the Oversight Committee and the Steering Committee.

The deans suggested several revisions to the document, including the addition of a section on the duties and responsibilities of the GPD. Dr. Langlais will revise the document and call the first meeting of the Oversight Committee and the Steering Committee in the next few weeks.

Charles Wilson suggested that the development of the interdisciplinary undergraduate program in modeling and simulation be modeled on the graduate program and that a committee be formed to work on developing the undergraduate program. The deans were supportive of this approach. Dr. Wilson will contact them by e-mail to get faculty to serve on the committee.

6. Announcements
 - A. Information on the 2008 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards program was included with the agenda.
 - B. Tom Isenhour shared with the Deans the e-mail message he will send to faculty about how to request student evaluations of summer courses.