

March 19, 2009

TO: Provost's Council

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

SUBJ: Provost's Council Agenda for Tuesday, March 24, 2009

The Provost's Council will meet on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 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 March 10, 2009 minutes (see attachment, p. 1-3)
2. Faculty Senate Issue 2008/9-15, Bachelor of Science in Modeling and Simulation (see attachment, p. 4-14; complete proposal sent as Word file by email)
3. Report of CGS Consultation Team (see attachment, p. 15-21)
4. Budget Requests
5. Strategic Planning Update
6. Cross-Departmental Appointments as Infrastructural Structure Support for More Interdisciplinary and Multi-University Projects (see attachment, p. 22-33)
Bill Graves
7. Announcements/Reminders
 - A. The non-credit operations unit will be moving to the Office of the University Registrar on March 23, 2009.

PROVOST'S COUNCIL
March 24, 2009
Minutes

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 from 8:30-10:15 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. Those present were Carol Simpson (Chair), Osman Akan, Nancy Bagranoff, Andrew Balas, Paul Champagne, Nancy Cooley, Chandra de Silva, Bill Graves, Brenda Lewis, Ginny O'Herron, Chris Platsoucas, Marty Sharpe, and Charles Wilson. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The March 10 minutes were approved.
2. Faculty Senate Issue 2008/9-15, Bachelor of Science in Modeling and Simulation Engineering

Council members approved the proposed Bachelor of Science in Modeling and Simulation Engineering. The Council's recommendation will be forwarded to Acting President Broderick. The next step is approval of the new degree program by the Board of Visitors. Following Board approval, the degree program will be submitted to SCHEV and SACS.

3. Report of CGS Consultation Team

Council members discussed the report of the CGS consultation team. The team was asked to provide specific recommendations that will enhance the quality, productivity and management of ODU's graduate programs, utilizing "best practices" and a SWOT analysis. The team made recommendations in four areas:

- Assessment methods and management of graduate program quality, capacity and viability;
- Graduate enrollment management – marketing, recruitment, admissions, student support (financial and social);
- Allocation and management of university resources to support graduate programs; and
- Organizational structure and administrative resources of the Office of Graduate Studies and its reporting units.

One of the key recommendations was the creation of a campus level unit for graduate education with the status of a Graduate School or Graduate College to be led by a Graduate Dean. The team also recommended that a Task Force be formed to consider the issues in the report pertaining to graduate education and to formulate an implementation plan for addressing them.

Council members made the following comments and suggestions regarding the report.

- Rather than form a Task Force, which would debate what has already been discussed, focus on how things can be done more effectively and efficiently. That is, focus on what things need to be done at the college level and what should be done at the Provost's level.
- Each college could be responsible and accountable for its own programs but with oversight centrally and overall guidance.
- Focus on how ODU can have the best graduate programs.
- Encourage and support interdisciplinary programs.
- Conduct periodic program reviews.
- Change GAC so that there is a larger, elected Graduate Council.

Carol Simpson summarized the discussion by stating she would like to focus on what each college needs in order to function well and what should be done more centrally. She also noted that, if the colleges are to be responsible for graduate education, they will also need to be accountable. She agreed with comments from the deans on the need to encourage interdisciplinary graduate programs that cross colleges. Finally, Dr. Simpson suggested that a half-day retreat be held near the end of the semester to discuss the issues related to the organization of graduate education.

4. Budget Requests

Carol Simpson informed Council members that she has met with President Broderick about the budget, and Bill McMahon has communicated information related to budget reductions to the units. She hopes to be able to add at least 20 faculty positions with the use of stimulus funds. The positions will be funded with one-time funds initially with the intent to base fund most of them in future years. Faculty positions have been prioritized and new positions will be placed in strategic areas. Two of those areas are bioelectrics and health sciences.

Dr. Simpson also informed Council members that tuition increases are expected to be in the 3-5% range next year. In addition, course fee requests will be considered for next year.

5. Strategic Planning Update

Carol Simpson encouraged Council members to continue to review the information on the strategic planning web site. She asked the deans to encourage their faculty to view the information. A faculty forum on strategic planning will be held on April 29, and a second one will be scheduled if possible. The next Provost's Council meeting will focus on strategic planning. Draft committee reports should be available by then.

6. Cross-Departmental (Courtesy) Appointments

Council members received information on courtesy appointments at several institutions. The deans agreed on the need for a structure to permit cross-departmental appointments, although they were unsure what these appointments should be called. Carol Simpson

asked Council members to review the materials on courtesy appointments and think about what they should be called and what the responsibilities should be. This issue will be discussed at a future meeting.

7. Space Utilization Review

Carol Simpson asked the deans to begin a space utilization review in their college if they have not done so recently. She wants to get a sense of the space needs of the colleges in order to plan for space in the next 5-10 years. She also asked the deans to be sure that minority and female faculty have the same resources and same or equivalent space as other faculty. More information about the space utilization review will be sent to the deans in the next few weeks.

8. Announcements

- A. It was announced that the non-credit operations unit moved to the Office of the University Registrar on March 23.
- B. Chandra de Silva encouraged Council members to participate in the Film Festival.
- C. Andrew Balas announced a talk on infant mortality.
- D. Charles Wilson will send information to the deans on nominations for the Frederick W. Ness Book Award.