

April 8, 2009

TO: Provost's Council

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

SUBJ: Provost's Council Agenda for Tuesday, April 14, 2009

The Provost's Council will meet on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room at Koch Hall. **Please note that we would like to meet until 10:30 a.m. to allow more time for discussion of strategic planning.** The following agenda items will be discussed.

1. Approval of the March 24 minutes (see attachment, p. 1-3)
2. Strategic Planning (please review the strategic planning web site at <http://www.odu.edu/ao/sp/>)
3. Announcements/Reminders

PROVOST'S COUNCIL  
Minutes  
April 14, 2009

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, April 14, 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, Andy Casiello, Chandra de Silva, Bill Graves, Phil Langlais, Ginny O'Herron, Chris Platsoucas, Marty Sharpe, and Charles Wilson. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The March 24 minutes were approved. Carol Simpson welcomed Andy Casiello to the Council.
2. Faculty Senate Issue 2008-9-6, Terms of Service on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee

Council members discussed the recommendation from the Faculty Senate to specify a three-year term for service on a college promotion and tenure committee. The Senate also recommended the addition of September 15 as the date committee members should be elected to the University Promotion and Tenure Committee. The current policy states that "No person shall serve on a college promotion and tenure committee or on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee for more than three years consecutively but is eligible for reelection after an absence of at least one year."

After discussion, the deans felt that specifying a three-year term on a college promotion and tenure committee was too restrictive. There might be situations warranting a one-year term that could be renewable. Thus, Council members recommended the following revision to the Senate's recommendation.

All members of the college promotion and tenure committees shall be elected directly by the faculties they represent **for a one-year term renewable twice for a total of three years.**

The Council's recommendation will be forwarded to President Broderick.

3. Accommodation of Students from the Northern Virginia Higher Education Center

Andy Casiello discussed accommodations that have been made for students who are being displaced by the closure of the Northern Virginia Higher Education Center. These students will have priority for the "seats" in the videostreamed (VS) classes. However, there has been no increase in the course caps for VS classes, which means there will likely be too few seats to accommodate new VS students, traditional VS students, and those from the Northern Virginia Center. Given that the Northern Virginia Center students are simply swapping delivery modes from two way to VS, Mr. Casiello recommended that specific programs "shift" a certain number of seats from two way to

VS. He will let the deans know the classes that are most impacted by the displacement of the Northern Virginia students.

#### 4. E-mail Retention Suggestions for Faculty

Council members received a copy of the e-mail retention suggestions for faculty developed by the ad hoc committee convened by Judy Bowman. Carol Simpsons asked the deans to share the suggestions with their faculty if they felt the information would be helpful.

#### 5. Strategic Planning

Carol Simpson distributed an executive summary and a summary of summaries from the strategic planning committees as of April 2. She stressed that the information is not complete but a summary of where we are to date. In particular, reports related to the emphasis on research, international focus and interdisciplinarity are not included in the summary. In addition, college strategic plans have not been summarized.

Key themes that have emerged are to

- Invest in the human infrastructure
- Focus on quality
- Recruit and retain the best students, faculty and staff
- Improve the student experience
- Meet the demands of critical shortage professions
- Shift our emphasis to learning, discovery and engagement

Dr. Simpson asked for input from Council members on pieces that are missing from the strategic plan or items that should be removed. The following comments and suggestions were made during the discussion.

- When we talk about recruitment and retention of quality faculty and students, we need to include recruitment and retention of quality professional staff and support staff.
- Our strategic plan should not be limited to the southeastern United States.
- The plan should include a definition of who we want to be and what we want to achieve.
- Our location should play a prominent role in the strategic plan.
- Global relevance should be part of our vision statement.
- Old Dominion is relevant to and a microcosm of the Hampton Roads area.
- Problems in Hampton Roads are problems anywhere; if we solve problems locally, the solutions have national import.
- Two themes seem to be emerging in the summary document: caring and learning.
- We should celebrate our diversity but not lose sight of what is left to do. We have lost ground in the recruitment and retention of minority faculty.

- We need to continue our focus on research and scholarship. To do this, we must obtain more external funding and grants.
- The strategic plan should include what is unique and distinctive about Old Dominion and our reputation. Some areas we might become distinctive in include diversity, communication, collaboration, global relevance, interdisciplinarity, and workforce education.

Carol Simpson noted that, in terms of distinctiveness, we need to select a small group of things we will do well and be known for. To do this, we must realign resources. She asked the deans to determine areas of strength that we can build on in each of the colleges. Andy Casiello stated that distance learning can be a partner to the colleges and provide a broad range of tools and techniques.

An open forum on strategic planning will be held on April 29.

#### 6. Announcements

- A. Carol Simpson asked the deans to encourage their adjunct faculty to complete the QUL survey.
- B. Carol Simpson informed the deans of the concern expressed by the student body president that, while the University encourages the purchase of laptop computers, some professors do not allow the use of laptops in the classroom. She asked the deans to encourage faculty to allow the use of laptop computers in class when appropriate.