

February 8, 2008

TO: Provost's Council

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

SUBJ: Provost's Council Agenda for Tuesday, February 12, 2008

The Provost's Council will meet on Tuesday, February 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 January 22 minutes (see attachment, p. 1-2)
2. Discussion of proposed changes to policies in the research area and other issues

Mohammad Karim

3. Needs survey to be administered to ODU students regarding distance learning – 9:30 a.m.

Nancy Cooley, Ted Raspiller and Molly Duggan, faculty members in the Community College Leadership program

4. Site Closures

Nancy Cooley

5. Faculty Activity System

Marty Sharpe

6. Evaluation of Deans (see attachment, p. 3)

PROVOST'S COUNCIL
February 12, 2008
Minutes

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, February 12, 2008 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. Those present were Carol Simpson (Chair), Nancy Bagranoff, Andrew Balas, Oktay Baysal, Nancy Cooley, Chandra de Silva, Bill Drewry, Bill Graves, Phil Langlais, Ginny O'Herron, and Chris Platsoucas. The following agenda items were approved.

1. The January 22 minutes were approved.
2. Discussion of proposed changes to policies in the research area and other issues

Mohammad Karim met with Council members to discuss revisions to research policies that are underway. Revisions to two policies, Qualifications for Service as a Principal Investigator and Policy on Self-Supporting Research Professional Positions, are not substantive but cosmetic. The proposed revisions to the Qualifications for Service as a Principal Investigator will spell out the process to accommodate a class of PIs who are neither automatically eligible for PI status nor in Academic Affairs. The proposed revisions to the Policy on Self-Supporting Research Professional Positions will clarify the policy in terms of whether the proposed research professional position will be housed at ODU or ODURF.

Substantive revisions will be proposed to the policy on Patents and Copyrights. The University committee on patents and copyrights has been working on the revisions for several years. The policy will be overhauled to address the following: deal with confusion surrounding "Technology Based Materials," encourage IP creation, encourage IP licensing and marketing, address the economic impact relevance of ODU, and protect the rights of sponsors including ODU, the Commonwealth, agencies and industries. The major modifications are intended to

- Eliminate references to "Technology Based Materials" that is a source of confusion
- Ensure that faculty continue to create and benefit from scholarly works such as books, articles, plays, musical works, etc.
- Ensure that materials and IP created with ODU resources benefit ODU and are not utilized for commercial benefit of other entities
- Ensure that faculty can continue to utilize for their personal, noncommercial use any works such as notes, papers, course outlines, etc., created by them even after they leave ODU.

Issues raised by Council members concerning patents and copyrights are as follows.

- Situations when the work is done by a team, including the faculty advisor, post-doctoral faculty and students
- Copyright issues related to distance education courses, including the determination of when ownership begins and ends and the amount of time involved in course outlines and other aspects of a distance learning course
- Issues related to spin-off companies

The proposed revisions to the policy on Patents and Copyrights will be sent to the University counsel for review and then to the Faculty Senate. When the revisions are approved, Dr. Karim and his staff will conduct educational sessions for faculty to help them understand the patent and copyright process. It was also suggested that Dr. Karim meet with departments on issues related to patents and copyrights.

Dr. Karim also shared information on ODU's patents profile, including R&D expenditures, disclosures, patent applications and patents issued.

Several of the deans requested more funding for summer research grants, especially for young faculty and new hires.

3. Needs survey to be administered to ODU students regarding distance learning

Nancy Cooley and Ted Raspiller and Molly Duggan, Community College Leadership program faculty, discussed a distance learning needs assessment. The assessment will be completed by surveying two groups: current Old Dominion University students and current Virginia Community College System students. The first survey, targeting ODU students, will be conducted during the spring 2008 semester.

The survey is on-line and is divided into four sections: demographic information, information technology literacy, educational experiences, and future educational plans. Each section is designed to elicit specific information to aid in current program and delivery decisions as well as future planning.

Dr. Raspiller and Dr. Duggan will return to a future meeting to share the data from the surveys. A copy of the first survey will be sent to Council members for their review and input.

4. Site closures

Nancy Cooley shared with Council members the recommendation from her staff to close the TELETECHNET site in Athens, Georgia. The site operated at a net loss this year. The current lease extends to December 2008, and the recommendation is not to renew the lease.

Dr. Cooley shared information on the students at the Athens site by major and program. She recommended that the teach-out plan for these students be accomplished through technical means, such as videostreaming. The deans were supportive of closing the site.

5. Faculty Activity System

This issue was postponed until a future meeting.

6. Evaluation of deans

Carol Simpson discussed the policy requiring a full evaluation of the deans every three years and noted that the evaluations were not conducted last year. She proposed reactivating the process this year. The question banks used to evaluate the deans will be brought to the next meeting for discussion.

The results of the recent survey conducted by the AAUP will be forwarded to the deans.