

September 19, 2013

TO: Provost's Council

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

SUBJ: Provost's Council Agenda for Tuesday, September 24, 2013

The Provost's Council will meet on Tuesday, September 24 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 September 10 minutes (see attachment, p. 1-3)
2. GIS Briefing (see separate attachment; copies will be available at the meeting)
Rusty Waterfield and George McLeod
3. Principles for Effective Assessment of Student Achievement – 9:00 a.m. (see attachment, p 4-5)
Worth Pickering
4. Proposed Revisions to the Certificate Policy (see attachments, p. 6-7)
5. Emergency Responses (see attachment, p. 8)
Chandra de Silva
6. Announcements
 - A. Nominations for Employee of the Month (see attachment, p. 9-11)

PROVOST'S COUNCIL
September 24, 2013
Minutes

The Provost's Council met on Tuesday, September 24 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. Those present were Carol Simpson (Chair), Oktay Baysal, Jane Bray, Andy Casiello, Chandra de Silva, Jim Duffy, George Fowler, Jeanie Kline, Brenda Lewis, George McLeod, Shelley Mishoe, Ravi Mukkamala, Renee Olander, Rusty Waterfield, Charles Wilson, and Gil Yochum. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The September 10 minutes were approved.
2. GIS Briefing

Rusty Waterfield and George McLeod, Lead GIS Engineer, met with the Council to discuss applications of GIS. Mr. McLeod demonstrated the capability of GIS mapping and showed several examples of its use. GIS mapping is a useful tool for faculty and researchers, and research projects utilizing GIS are currently underway in all colleges. Significant opportunities exist for growth and application of geospatial technologies across the University. Council members were asked to contact Mr. McLeod for questions or possible projects involving applications of GIS.

3. Principles for Effective Assessment of Student Achievement

Worth Pickering discussed principles for effective assessment of student achievement. Federal law requires that a higher education institution undergoing accreditation provide evidence of "success with respect to student achievement in relation to the institution's mission." Institutions are expected to provide evidence of success in three domains: evidence of student learning experience; evaluation of student academic performance; and post-graduation outcomes.

Dr. Pickering reminded Council members that WEAVE assessment reports are due September 30. He distributed an overview of progress toward completing the reports for academic and administrative programs. He also noted that Shawn Smith is a new member of the Assessment staff, and the office is now located in Spong 2201.

4. Proposed Revisions to the Certificate Policy

Brenda Lewis provided background information on the development of revisions to the Certificate Policy. The previous policy is no longer adequate given the requirements from SCHEV and SACS regarding certificates.

We are required to notify SCHEV of all graduate certificates and any new undergraduate certificates after 2011. In addition, Certificates of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) must be approved by SCHEV similar to the degree approval process. Notification to SACS is also required in some cases. Dr. Lewis and Jeanie Kline have been preparing the notification for SCHEV and adjusting internal processes regarding certificates.

Oktay Baysal suggested several revisions, many of which are designed to provide flexibility. Additional revisions to the policy will be made based on the discussion, and a revised proposal will be discussed at a future meeting.

5. Emergency Responses

Chandra de Silva asked Council members to review the material included with the agenda for discussion at the next meeting. In particular, we need to ensure that we can get in touch with faculty and staff in the event of an emergency.