

DEANS COUNCIL
February 12, 2019
Minutes

The Deans Council met on Tuesday, February 12 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Visual Arts Building, room 2015. Those present were Austin Agho (Chair), Jane Bray, Gail Dodge, George Fowler, Kate Hawkins, Brian Payne, Kent Sandstrom, Jim Shaeffer, Jeff Tanner, Bonnie Van Lunen, and Robert Wojtowicz. Attending as guests were Elaine Pearson and Tisha Paredes. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The January 8, 2019 minutes were approved.
2. Revisions to the Faculty Records Policy

Tisha Paredes presented proposed revisions to the Faculty Records policy after review of the changes by the associate deans and department chairs. The purpose of the policy is to provide information on ensuring that those individuals teaching courses have the proper credentials and maintaining faculty records needed for SACS. The deans suggested changing faculty records to credentialing records. Dr. Paredes will make the changes suggested and return them to the Deans Council for final review.

3. Prioritization of Budget Requests

Austin Agho gave an update on the budget and noted we are not sure what additional revenue we will receive. There is a proposal in the General Assembly to provide \$3.1 to ODU in exchange for no increase in in-state undergraduate tuition.

He showed the budget requests received from units in Academic Affairs; the requests are prioritized in tier 1, 2 and 3. In determining tier 1 requests, he took into account accreditation needs, faculty promotion, tenure and retention, STEM-H faculty positions, and student retention. Fee requests have been received, but it is not clear yet how these will be handled. Additional information will be shared with the deans when we know the funding we will receive.

4. Bachelor of Science in Education

Austin Agho presented the proposal for a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Education. Jeff Tanner asked whether SEPS courses in the proposal duplicate business courses and noted the need to resolve any accreditation issues. Jane Bray will work with him on this. Kent Sandstrom expressed concern on the lack of content in the core given licensure requirements as well as the impact of the new degree on student credit hours in the College of Arts & Letters. Jane Bray responded that the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) has changed the guidelines for teacher preparation programs, and the

core follows the guidelines from VDOE and the accrediting body. Deans Council members supported the proposal for a BS in Education with one abstention.

5. Faculty Senate Issue AY18-11-F&G, Master Lecturer Annual Reviews and In-Depth Reviews

Kate Hawkins reported on her meeting with David Burdige and Sebastian Kuhn to discuss questions about the proposed policy revisions raised at the last Deans Council meeting. As a result, additional changes have been made to the policy to address the deans' concerns. Council members supported the proposed changes to the policy on Reappointment or Nonreappointment of Faculty and the policy on Evaluation of Lecturers, Senior Lecturers, and Master Lecturers and Promotion of Lecturers and Senior Lecturers. The proposed changes will be forwarded to President Broderick for approval.

6. Faculty Senate Issue AY18-05-F, Policy on Tenure

Kate Hawkins reported on her meeting with David Burdige and Sebastian Kuhn to discuss questions about the proposed policy revisions raised at the last Deans Council meeting. Dr. Burdige and Dr. Kuhn accepted that faculty could participate on committees considering tenure recommendations from a distance but emphasized that the vote must be by secret ballot and proxy votes would not be allowed. The deans asked for clarity on whether votes at all levels of review must be by an in-person secret ballot.

Dr. Hawkins will meet with Dr. Burdige to clarify the Senate's recommendation on when a vote by an in-person secret ballot applies. She asked the deans to send her any specific questions about the tenure and promotion policies so she can discuss them when she meets with Dr. Burdige.

7. Faculty Senate Issue AY18-07-F, Proposed Changes to the Policy on Promotion in Rank

The proposed changes to the policy on Promotion in Rank are similar to the changes proposed to the policy on Tenure and will be discussed when Kate Hawkins meets with David Burdige on the Tenure policy.

8. Faculty Senate Issue AY-06-G, Conversion from Lecturer Ranks to a Non-Tenure Eligible Clinical Track Position

Council members discussed the proposed changes to the policy on Conversion from Lecturer Ranks to a Non-Tenure Eligible Clinical Track Position. One change would remove non-tenure track faculty from the college promotion and tenure committee. The second change would specify that the representative from the conversion candidate's department/school can participate in deliberations in the candidate's case but not cast a vote. The changes are proposed in order to be consistent with the committee membership

and voting policy in the promotion and tenure policies. Deans Council members supported the proposed changes to the policy on Conversion from Lecturer Ranks to a Non-Tenure Eligible Clinical Track Position. The proposed changes will be sent to President Broderick for approval.

9. Faculty Senate Issue AY18-08-E, University Policy on the Evaluation of Teaching

Council members discussed the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for changes to the University Policy on the Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness. The deans expressed concern about the proposed language to require a 60% response rate in order to use the student opinion surveys to evaluate teaching effectiveness; a response rate less than 60% would be made available to the faculty member for consideration in altering or improving instruction only.

Austin Agho recommended that the proposed revisions be put on hold for now so we can look at the focus on revising/updating the survey and identify strategies to increase student participation.