

DEANS COUNCIL  
March 8, 2022  
Minutes

The Deans Council met on Tuesday, March 8 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Those present were Austin Agho (Chair), Tammi Dice, Gail Dodge, Stuart Frazer, Kate Hawkins, Jonathan Leib, Brian Payne, Jeff Tanner, Bonnie Van Lunen, and Robert Wojtowicz. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-23-A New Minor in Physical Education

Council members discussed and approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for a new minor in physical education in the Department of Human Movement Sciences. The recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval.

2. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-24-A New Minor in Queer Studies

Council members discussed and approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for a new minor in queer studies in the Department of Women's Studies. The recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval.

3. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-11-C Time Limits for Graduate Degrees

Council members discussed and approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate to create a section on Time Limits ahead of the requirements for master's, education specialist, and doctoral degrees in the Graduate Catalog. The recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval.

4. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-12-C Re-Validation of Out-of-Date Graduate Credit

Council members discussed and approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate to revise the policy on Re-Validation of Out-of-Date Graduate Credit to clarify that only graded coursework requires re-validation after eight years. The recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval.

5. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-8-G Modification of Faculty Research and Development Assignment - Teaching Coverage

Council members discuss the recommendation from the Faculty Senate to modify the policy on Faculty Research and Development Assignments. The revisions are intended to make it possible to use adjunct faculty to cover the classes offered by the faculty member granted a research or development assignment. The Deans felt that additional information should be added to the policy and suggested the language highlighted below in addition to the recommendation from the Senate.

D. Length of Assignment

1. A faculty member may be granted a research or development assignment of one semester or one full year. A faculty member who is approved for one semester shall be assigned full time to research or development for that period and shall receive regular compensation from the university, provided that he or she accepts no other outside employment during the semester. ~~The department must agree that the courses normally taught by the faculty member can be offered by the department without additional personnel. In other words, The faculty member will be counted as one full-time equivalent faculty member on the workload analysis. and the department must meet its normal faculty student ratio as if the faculty member were teaching full time.~~

A plan to address how to cover the classes taught by the faculty member must be approved. The college and/or department will be responsible for covering any additional costs.

The recommendation from the Deans Council will be returned to the Senate for additional review.

6. Faculty Senate Issue AY21-29-A Student Opinion Surveys

Council members discussed the recommendation from the Faculty Senate regarding Student Opinion Surveys. The Senate recommended changes to three policies: University Policy on the Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness, University Professors, and University Distinguished Teachers. The primary recommendation would prohibit use of the Student Opinion Surveys for summative evaluation of individual faculty members, such as for purposes of reappointment, promotion, or intra-mural awards.

The Deans had serious reservations about not being able to use the Student Opinion Surveys as part of the evaluation of faculty. They suggested that a subgroup consisting of representatives from the Senate and the Deans Council meet to discuss the proposed revisions and better understand the Senate's concerns. They also felt it would be useful to review instruments used at other institutions. Provost Agho will talk with John Sokolowski, Faculty Senate chair, about individuals from the Senate to serve on the subgroup, and he will ask for volunteers from the Deans Council.

7. Faculty Senate Issue AY19-17-G Faculty Complaint Procedure

Council members discussed the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for the establishment of a Faculty Complaint Procedure, which would be inserted under Minor Sanctions in the policy on Faculty Sanctions. The procedure would establish a

mechanism for investigating complaints against faculty and provide due process for faculty when complaints are lodged against them.

Council members were supportive of the procedure but felt it should be a separate policy and not included as part of the policy on Faculty Sanctions. They also felt the procedure should be for complaints against faculty only and not include faculty administrators, given a process already exists for grievances against those acting in an administrative capacity. The recommendation from the Deans Council will be returned to the Senate for additional review.

8. Faculty Senate Issue AY20-36-C Revision to the Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award

Council members discussed and approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate to revise the Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award so that there would be one winner each year from each college instead of one overall winner. The change would make the Graduate Teaching Award consistent with the Doctoral Mentoring Award, which recognizes one winner from each college each year. The recommendation will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval.

9. The following information items were included with the agenda.

A. The Faculty Senate accepted the revisions proposed by the Deans Council for the following Board of Visitors policies. The revisions will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval and submission to the Board of Visitors.

- AY21-34-F Policies and Procedures on Post-Tenure Review
- AY21-37-G Faculty Sanctions
- AY21-36-I Sudden Withdrawal and Prolonged Absence Due to Military Mobilization

B. The Faculty Senate did not accept the revisions proposed by the Deans Council for the Board of Visitors policies below and recommended that each policy remain as it was until it can be further reviewed by the Faculty Senate. The policies will be forwarded to President Hemphill for approval and submission to the Board of Visitors with no proposed revisions.

- AY21-33-G Initial Appointment of Teaching and Research Faculty
- AY21-38-G Policy for the Review of Academic Programs, Departments or Colleges for the Purpose of Curtailment or Discontinuance
- AY21-39-G Faculty Grievance Policy