

Academic Council Meeting
August 27, 2015
2:00 p.m.
New Library Conference Room
(formerly known as the Music Technology Lab inside the Taylor Library)

Present: Dr. Jimmie Yeiser, Dr. Ranelle Eubanks, Dr. Rick Clubb, Mr. Mark Spencer, Dr. Ted Hammett, Dr. Peggy Doss, Dr. Phil Tappe, Mr. Dan Boice, Dr. Laura Evans, Mr. Brian Hairston, Dr. Morris Bramlett, Ms. Linda Rushing, Ms. Carol Dolberry, Ms. Mary Whiting, and Ms. Rita Hyatt.

The minutes of the August 6, 2015 meeting were approved with minor changes.

Dr. Yeiser stated he was pleased with the number of students who attended the school mixers.

- The School of Education gave away door prizes to students who attend the event.
- Dr. Eubanks wanted to thank faculty for helping with the General Studies mixer.
- Mr. Boice said the Library faculty attended many mixer and handed out bookmarks with a librarian's picture on it and told student if they needed help finding materials in the library to ask them for assistance.

The Council discussed retention and recruitment ideas.

- Put an information tent in the middle of campus on the first Wednesday and Thursday of semester and offer weevil water to students.
- Post signs with the name of buildings in the inside of the campus loop.
- Dr. Hammett stated that retention should be included in the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Dolberry encouraged faculty to print class rosters daily and report attendance. If a student's name is not on the class roster, the student should be sent to the Registrar's Office. She asked that faculty don't change classrooms without getting approval from the Registrar's Office before moving the class. She asked that units check the schedule and remove STAFF from the fall schedule. The first draft of Spring 2016 is due to the Registrar's Office on August 28.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council that October 28 is the last day to drop a regular course with the grade of "W."

Dr. Yeiser asked Unit Heads to confirm the number of full-time faculty in their units so that the Faculty Development Funds could be disbursed. Reminder that the Faculty Development Fund is for full-time faculty, not Unit Heads.

Dr. Yeiser discussed annual self-faculty evaluations-retention. The Council decided to add an item under Faculty Self Evaluation --- What are your opportunities and strategies to improve retention?

Dr. Yeiser asked the Council what they thought about Professional Development Week.

Dr. Yeiser asked the Council for feedback on 1st Four Weeks and 1st Year Experience. We have a campus wide meeting on the 1st Four Weeks on September 17 in the MCB auditorium at 12:30 p.m.

The Council discussed C & S proposals from the School of Math and Natural Sciences. The Council agreed to waive the 10-day review and approved all proposals.

Dr. Yeiser announced the Arkansas Dean's Conference September 21-22 at Lake DeGray.

Dr. Yeiser encourage everyone to attend the activities concerning the chancellor search for Dr. Ty Handy on September 14-15 and for Dr. Karla Hughes on September 24-25. It is important to have the support of the campus at all events.

Dr. Yeiser stated that Blackboard evaluations of faculty would begin on November 9 and end on November 30. The number of students completing the Blackboard survey has increased.

Dr. Doss stated that the School of Education's NCATE visit is scheduled for October 17-20.

The next Academic Council meeting will be Wednesday, September 9, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the NEW Conference Room formerly known as the Music Technology Lab inside the Taylor Library.

The meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.