

**Academic Council Meeting**  
**October 29, 2015**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Sandra Campbell Conference Room**

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

The minutes of the October 14, 2015 meeting were approved.

The Council discussed retention and recruitment ideas.

- Ms. Whiting reminded the Council of the team recruitment event at the El Dorado Convention Center on November 10 at 6-8 p.m. She stated that the Admissions Office has contacted all surrounding high schools and the SouthArk Community College to attend the recruiting event. There is no program for the event. Students will visit tables and gather information about UAM. Ms. Lindy Hester will attend the event to discuss the El Dorado Promise. Ms. Whiting encouraged the Council to contact every high school in the surrounding area. The students are shopping for college.
- Mr. Hairston stated the School of Computer Information System hosted their Annual CIS Day and offer free food for students.
- Dr. Doss stated that her faculty are being careful about using all transfer hours for transfer students.
- Some units will not let new faculty advise students during their first year at UAM and will have them shadow other faculty members.

Mr. Spencer asked about the BA and BS Identity Requirements and if it was necessary to have these requirements. Are we the only ones in the state requiring a student to have BA/BS identity requirements? Dr. Yeiser appointed committees to review the value, function and necessity of the BA and BS Identity.

Dr. Yeiser stated that the 1<sup>st</sup> Year Experience met today and the meeting went well. The group discussed all seven points of topics. Faculty were sharing their ideas with each other.

Dr. Yeiser discussed the credit/no credit grading system for the following classes: MUS 1040, NUR 2264, NUR 2326, NUR 2414, NURS 2211, EDLD 5653, EDLD 5803 and FRS 579V. Sometime students receive an "F" instead of "C" or "NC". Reporting of grades should be consistent either "CR" or "NC".

Dr. Yeiser provided the Council with a handout concerning determining qualified faculty through HLC's criteria for accreditation and assumed practices. Faculty should hold a degree above what they are teaching. The new policy is effective September 1, 2017.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council about the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Minority Research on Tobacco & Addictions request for proposals 2015-2016 stating there are options #1 on electronic cigarettes and #2 on pregnant women. Ms. Caroline Johnson works on a related project and will glad to help anyone with questions.

Dr. Yeiser continued discussion of having student mentors in the Writing Center assist students with general information (how to read class schedule, tell the student who their advisor is and where to find them). Ms. Halley will provide training to students.

Dr. Yeiser stated that he had formed a committee to review the request from the Greek/Non-Greek Organizations about wearing their sorority/fraternity chord during commencement ceremony. The committee members are: Dr. Rick Clubb (chair), Dr. Carol Strong, Dr. Robert Ficklin, Ms. Rebecca Smith, Mr. Vincent Flieder.

Dr. Yeiser stated the Textbook Adoption forms were due to Mr. Billy Hogue by October 16. Textbook information must be posted to our website by noon on November 1. The Dean must submit a letter to the Provost indicating why the course was added after the deadline along with the Textbook Adoption form.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council that preregistration for Spring 2016 will begin November 2 and will end November 13.

Dr. Yeiser stated that faculty course evaluation using Blackboard will begin November 9 and end November 30. All courses will be evaluated by students. Please call Ms. Halley if tenured faculty want only one course evaluated.

Dr. Yeiser stated that no activities including meetings, social events, and fund-raising activities, are permitted in the 24 hours prior to the start of the official final exam period, which is December 7-11.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council of the Annual Evaluation timetable and asked each member to notify his/her faculty of the deadlines.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council of the Promotion and Tenure deadline.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council that requests for early retirement are due in the Provost's office by November 1.

The next Academic Council meeting will be Wednesday, November 11, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sandra Campbell Conference Room inside the Taylor Library.

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.