

**Academic Council Meeting**  
**January 27, 2016**  
**2:00 p.m.**  
**Sandra Campbell Conference Room**

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

Dr. Yeiser invited Dr. Leigh Graziano to discuss the draft of UAM Honors Program. There are two ways a student may be admitted into the honors program 1) High school students with an ACT score of 24 or higher will be invited to join; 2) all students with less than 60 credit hours and a 3.5 GPA or higher can submit an application process. Students are required to maintain a 3.5 GPA or higher each semester, complete 18 hours of honors coursework (9 hours within their discipline and at 3000-4000 level courses) and 6 hours of thesis work, 3 in each of their final two semesters, and must complete their baccalaureate degree within six years of their enrollment as a full-time freshman student.

The minutes of the December 2, 2015 meeting were approved.

The Council discussed retention and recruitment ideas.

- The School of CIS offers departmental tutoring by students who earned an “A” in the course.
- Dr. Evans will discuss the first failed exam with nursing students and the faculty will offer tutoring sessions as needed.
- Ms. Whiting thanked everyone for helping with the team recruiting events at the Jacksonville Community Center and the Stuttgart Grand Prairie Center. She stated that everybody must work together to recruit students to come to UAM.

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council that UAM will host Weevil Welcome on February 5 and 8.

Dr. Yeiser talked about performance funding.

Dr. Yeiser talked about matching benefits contribution.

Mr. Spencer stated that his committee agreed to remove the 12 hours of BA identity and replace the hours with supportive requirements. Dr. Clubb stated the committee agreed to remove the BS identity requirements. Dr. Yeiser said Academic Affairs will submit a C&S proposal to remove BS/BA identity requirements.

The Council had a discussion about the possibly of removing minors from student’s degree requirement. The Council will continue this discussion at a later date.

Dr. Yeiser provided the Council with several examples of academic advising situations.

Dr. Yeiser provided the Council with a strategy for May graduates with 6 comments of concern.

Dr. Yeiser announced that UAM will have a December Commencement Ceremony effective 2016. Faculty will only be required to attend one ceremony per year.

Dr. Yeiser asked the Council to notify him of end of semester banquets and award ceremonies.

Dr. Yeiser stated that the Academic Council did not support any recognition of Greek/Non-Greeks organizations at the commencement ceremony.

Dr. Yeiser provided the Council with a copy of HLC Assumed Practice about the qualifications of faculty effective September 2017. He asked Mr. Spencer and Dr. Doss to draft a statement what UAM concerns equivalent experience to be.

2. Faculty Roles and Qualifications

a. Qualified faculty members are identified primarily by credentials, but other factors, including but not limited to equivalent experience, may be considered ~~in addition to the degrees earned~~ by the institution in determining whether a faculty member is qualified. Instructors (excluding for this requirement teaching assistants enrolled in a graduate program and supervised by faculty) possess an academic degree relevant to what they are teaching and at least one level above the level at which they teach, except in programs for terminal degrees or when equivalent experience is established. In terminal degree programs, faculty members possess the same level of degree. When faculty members are employed based on equivalent experience, the institution defines a minimum threshold of experience and an evaluation process that is used in the appointment process. Faculty teaching general education courses, or other non-occupational courses ~~that transfer, typically~~ hold a master's degree or higher in the discipline or subfield. If a faculty member holds a master's degree or higher in a discipline or subfield other than that in which he or she is teaching, that faculty member should have completed a minimum of 18 graduate credit hours in the discipline or subfield in which they teach.

b. Instructors teaching in graduate programs should hold the terminal degree determined by the discipline and have a record of research, scholarship or achievement appropriate for the graduate program.

Dr. Yeiser asked the Deans to consider expanding the 8-week classes.

The Council discussed a C & S proposal from the School of Arts & Humanities, Business, and Social & Behavioral Sciences. The Council approved the following proposals:

School of Arts and Humanities

**Add** ENGL 1X3 Critical Reading Skills with syllabus

**Add** English Major with a Concentration in Creative Writing by add Advanced Composition (ENGL 4763) as a requirement

**Modify** ENGL 4XX3 Senior Project in Creative Writing with syllabus

**Modify** English Major with a Concentration in Creative Writing by add ENGL 4XX3 Senior Project in Creative Writing as a requirement

School of Business

**Modify** accounting major requirements

School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

**Delete** PSY 2294 Experimental Psychology

**Add** PSY 2XX3 Research Methods I with syllabus

**Add** PSY 3XX3 Research Methods II with syllabus

**Modify** Minor Requirements for Psychology

Dr. Yeiser reminded the Council of the Annual Evaluation deadline.

The next Academic Council meeting will be Friday, February 12, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the Sandra Campbell Conference Room inside the Taylor Library.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.