

Approved - Dean's Council Minutes for November 16, 2016

Attending: Jill Cermele (left at 2:30), Joshua Kavaloski, Caitlin Killian, Juliette Lantz, Rosemary McLaughlin, Chris Taylor

The Council convened at 1:15.

- I. Dean's Updates - The dean provided brief updates about anticipated staffing issues as well as about the current Human Resources search.
- II. Council Members' Updates - Current enrollments and waitlists for the spring semester of 2017 were briefly discussed.
- III. Associate Deans Jessica Lakin and Deb Liebowitz joined the meeting at 1:30. Deb led a discussion of the proposed Community College Credit Transfer Policy. Issues surrounding the language policy (competency vs. number of semesters) were clarified. The change to the number of required upper-level credits was discussed. Some minor edits were suggested. There was general support from DC regarding this policy, and there was agreement that this policy addresses many of the barriers to graduation faced by transfer students entering with an associate's degree. A clean version of this document will be sent to DC members for Div meetings; this will be an action item at the December faculty meeting.
- IV. Deb Liebowitz led a brief discussion of GPA calculations in the majors, following up on the discussion of this topic in previous faculty and division meetings. It's recognized by all that student success towards graduation is a key outcome being sought. No single calculation strategy will be free from disadvantaging some segments of students. Still, consistency across the college is needed. It was proposed that some sort of calculational strategy be determined among DC and CAPC, and this be brought to the larger faculty for approval with the understanding that all exceptions would still be handled by petition to the Academic Standing Committee. Deb left the meeting at 2:00 pm.
- VI. Chief Financial Officer John Vitali joined the meeting at 2:00 pm to discuss the financial report. John led meeting attendees through a lengthy discussion about the University's financial situation: past, present and future, with an emphasis on FY 15, 16 and 17, pointing out areas for concern and improvement. John concluded his visit at 3:10.
- VII. Dean's Council briefly revisited the status of the line requests and sabbatical leaves with an awareness of the need to conclude these processes quickly. Chris suggested that some additional aspects of this conversation move online, as DC will not meet on Nov 23.

VIII. There was a brief discussion of topics to bring to the division meetings in advance of the CLA faculty meeting on Dec 2. These topics include the Transfer Credit policy and possibly the GPA calculation policy.

The Council adjourned at 3:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliette Lantz