

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Texas Tech University

**Meeting of July 18, 2017
1:30 PM, Library Room 309**

MINUTES

Present: Dennis Arnett, Lora Deahl, David Doerfert, Cathy Duran, Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, Brian Enderson for Bobbie Brown, Upe Flueckiger for Saif Haq, Steve Frazee for Cindy Akers, Paul Frazier, Maggie Gilchrist, Greg Glaus, Birgit Green, Melanie Hart, Cheryl Hedlund for Garrett McKinnon, Annette Hernandez, Lynn Huffman, Michelle Kiser, Amy Koerber, Mitzi Lauderdale, Andrew Martin, Mellinee Lesley, Robin Lock, Pat McConnel, Alison Myhra, Julian Olivas for Jamie Hansard, Bill Pasewark, David Roach, Brian Shannon, Rob Stewart chair, Susan Tomlinson for Aliza Wong, Patricia Vitela, Janessa Walls, Vicki West

Guests: Allison Cattell, Sean Childers, Shannon Crossland, Jody Randall

Action Items:

1. Associate Deans are asked to send the attached LGBTQIA syllabus statement to their area faculty. Details about the presentation of this proposal are available below in the minutes.
2. Associate Deans are asked to solicit feedback on the attached proposal to move to a single summer term (effective summer 2018). Associate Deans should submit questions and concerns to Vice Provost Genevieve Durham DeCesaro as soon as possible so that they might be addressed during the August 1st Associate Deans meeting. More details about the proposal are available on the attachment and also in the description included below in the minutes.
3. Associate Deans are asked to remind their areas of the July 28 deadline for fall textbook orders.

Stewart called the meeting to order and introduced the minutes from the June Academic Council meeting. After a few corrections had been verbalized, Doerfert moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Huffman seconded, and the motion carried.

Cattell and Randall presented a proposed syllabus statement, created jointly with the TLPDC, in support of LGBTQIA students. Inclusion of the statement in syllabi is encouraged, as research shows that LGBTQIA students are a marginalized population, and inclusion of the statement might allow the university to move up in rankings of inclusiveness. Academic Council members are asked to make the language available to faculty.

Childers and Vitela provided an update on a five-year schedule to update classrooms across the campus to the “Raider Room” level of technology. Childers noted that some current university classrooms did not match what students had access to in high school, and that the Office of the President was providing funding for the project. The plan called for 49 classrooms and 29 labs to be updated within the next five years.

Crossland presented a proposal to move to a single summer term instead of the Summer I and Summer II terms offered by the university. To be implemented during the summer of 2018, the single summer term would encompass four standard “parts of term”: May intersession, Summer I, Summer II, and Full Summer. This structure would allow departments to offer courses during any of the “parts of term” mentioned previously, and would allow any department to propose, as

is current practice, an “off part of term” course through Sharepoint. Crossland noted that the move might encourage higher summer enrollment due to lower costs for students, and that a single summer term would offer advantages in terms of financial aid and academic standing rules. Crossland also said that a single summer term would be beneficial for graduate students serving as teaching or research assistants.

Hedlund presented the course and program approvals summary from Curriculog. With no corrections suggested for courses, Huffman moved that course changes be approved as submitted, Doerfert seconded, and the motion carried.

With regard to program approvals, the Department of Personal Financial Planning proposed a reduction in the required semester credit hours for the Ph.D. in Personal Financial Planning. Similarly, Rawls College of Business proposed a reduction in the required semester credit hours for the Graduate Certificate in Finance. Doerfert moved that both SCH reductions be approved as proposed, Lock seconded, and the motion carried.

Council members also heard an informational item regarding the discontinuation of the Transition concentration in the M.A. in Special Education.

In other business:

- Stewart presented an idea posited by Provost Galyean regarding a “Double-T College,” which would be a series of TED Talk-type presentations by faculty on topics of interest to students.
- Stewart clarified deadlines regarding the Teaching and Research Excellence Professorships. He noted that nominations were due by mid-October, and that the award would be for \$5,000. He also noted that applications should indicate the proposed use of funds, and that the professorship lasted two years.
- Members were reminded that the deadline for fall semester textbook orders was July 28.
- Members were also reminded to pass word to faculty members regarding the importance of reporting faculty sick leave.
- Hedlund noted that edits to the 2018-2019 catalog would be ideally made in Acalog by the parent department or unit, and that departments were urged to contact Garrett McKinnon for training on Acalog.

With no additional business items raised, Stewart adjourned the meeting.

Syllabi Statements about LGBTQIA support. If you have language in your syllabus about classroom civility and/or community, and would like to communicate that you identify as an ally for the LGBTQIA community or provide related resources, the following are two *optional* statements, provided by Jody Randall from the Office of LGBTQIA at Texas Tech University, that you are welcome to include:

“I identify as an ally to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA) community, and I am available to listen and support you in an affirming manner. I can assist in connecting you with resources on campus to address problems you may face pertaining to sexual orientation and/or gender identity that could interfere with your success at Texas Tech. Please note that additional resources are available through the Office of LGBTQIA within the Center for Campus Life, Student Union Building Room 201, www.lgbtqia.ttu.edu, 806.742.5433.”

If you prefer to list campus resources rather than a statement about ally status, you might include the following among other campus resources you wish to share:

“Office of LGBTQIA, Student Union Building Room 201, www.lgbtqia.ttu.edu, 806.742.5433

Within the Center for Campus Life, the Office serves the Texas Tech community through facilitation and leadership of programming and advocacy efforts. This work is aimed at strengthening the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual (LGBTQIA) community and sustaining an inclusive campus that welcomes people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.”

Proposal to move to one summer term:

Overview: Registrar, Student Business Services, and Financial Aid propose moving to a single summer term rather than a Summer I term and a Summer II term. Following is information, advantages, and disadvantages:

Basic information:

- The single summer term will encompass four standard “parts of term:”
 1. May intersession
 2. Summer I
 3. Summer II
 4. Full summerAny department may still put forward a request to offer any course “off part of term” using the current Sharepoint approval process.
- One term for the summer will appear on the transcript.
- Students may still enroll in courses in the Summer I part of term that are required prerequisites for the Summer II part of term.
- Grading will still open for the individual parts of terms three days prior to the finals scheduled for those parts of term.
- Proposed implementation date: Summer 2018

Advantages:

- Single summer term may encourage higher summer enrollment due to lower cost to students (potentially changing from flat rate fees to per SCH in summer)
- Would not have any impact on formula funding reporting; Currently IR submits a single report for summer already
- Eliminates the issue of TA/RA/GPTI recipients not being eligible for exemptions for being enrolled and employed in separate summer terms
- Would improve Employee Tuition Assistance application of benefits due to streamlined registration
- Would improve Employee Dependent Scholarship posting due to streamlined registration
- Financial Aid could be awarded earlier due to earlier recognition of full time employment
- One summer term coordinates with the academic standing rules in effect beginning Fall 2017.

Disadvantages:

- Payment due date would be prior to the first day of summer classes regardless of classes that start later (but financial aid would be applied at that time as well)
- Some fee revenue will be reduced assuming a change to per SCH billing and across a single term (but this results in the lower cost to the student)