

**Texas Tech University
Academic Council**

**Meeting of April 19, 2022
1:30 PM, Microsoft Teams**

Attendance

Present: Dennis Arnett, Andrea Bilkey, Stefanie Borst, Ashlee Brown (for Dottie Durband), Bobbie Brown, Dee Dee Brown-Campbell, Michael Carter (for Pat McConnel), Todd Chambers, Robert Cox, John Dascanio, Mayukh Dass, Genevieve Durham DeCesaro, Kristi Gaines, Heather Greenhalgh-Spencer, Matt Gregory, Kaelene Hansen, Melanie Hart, Bret Hendricks, Raegan Higgins, Patrick Hughes, Wendy-Adele Humphrey, Jorge Iber, Catherine Jai, Darryl James, Michelle Kiser, Amy Koerber, Rodney Lackey, Mitzi Lauderdale, Justin Louder, Brenda Martinez, Shirley Matteson, Kuhn Park, Pradip Sahu, Brian Shannon, Jyotsna Sharma, Rob Stewart (Chair), Clay Taylor, Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo, Patricia Vitela, Janessa Walls, and Brandon Weeks.

Guests: Dale Ganus, Heather Scalf.

Action Items:

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| 1. None. |
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Stewart presented the March Council minutes. With no discussion, Stewart called for a motion. Louder moved, Shannon seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Hansen introduced the summary of course proposals and explained that effective dates in green have been moved forward. James asked how a course could be listed as both a prerequisite and a corequisite in items 22 and 23. Martinez said there are a few instances where a student can choose to take a course before or at the same time as another course. Weeks clarified that this is a summer class, so the option is to prevent students from falling behind. They must receive department approval. With no further discussion, Cox moved to approve the course proposals. Humphrey seconded, and the motion carried.

James welcomed Sahu as the new Acting Managing Director of Institutional Research. James then introduced the program proposals, beginning with the new programs. The new programs included a graduate concentration in Dual Credit in English under the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and a Master of Veterinary Sciences. Louder said that item 2 is considered an off-campus degree since it will not be offered at the Lubbock campus, and it will need to go through the eLearning Council. James moved to table item 2 and approve item 1. Greenhalgh-Spencer seconded, and the motion carried.

The informational items included curricular changes for the Heritage and Museum Sciences, M.A.; Petroleum Engineering, M.S.P.E; Petroleum Engineering, BS / M.S.; and Philosophy, B.A.

For the next item of business, Louder explained significant potential changes regarding professional licensure and NC-SARA. Currently, the university is required to inform students that TTU's programs leading to licensure will meet requirements in Texas, but it has not been determined if they will meet licensure requirements in other states/territories. The U.S. Department of Education has now proposed that institutions must specifically list if licensure

programs do or do not meet licensure requirements in other states, so TTU would have to determine other states' requirements.

The U.S. Department of Education is further proposing that institutions must meet different laws in different states where they offer distance education, effectively negating NC-SARA. TTU would have to pay an estimated \$1 million in fees annually to offer programs in all fifty states. With NC-SARA, TTU currently pays \$5,000 annually. There will be more meetings this summer before a final regulation is posted.

Dascanio asked what professional licensure entails. Louder said the Department of Education has not specified, so it may include any program that leads to licensure either during or after the program, including architecture, counseling, engineering, interior design, landscape architecture, law, psychology, social work, education, and veterinary sciences.

Stewart asked what work this would require if it comes to fruition. Louder said it may be enforced in December 2022 or September 2023. eLearning would have to work with the Office of General Counsel and individual departments to determine where students live and what laws and fees TTU would have to comply with in those states. They would also have to determine the requirements of licensing agencies in other states. Hart clarified this would apply to any student attending the Lubbock campus from out of state; it is not just for online students.

For the next item of business, Louder shared that eLearning is launching a new grant program for a summer online course design academy. Faculty members would attend an intensive two-week summer design academy at the TLPDC during July and then work with designers during summer to redesign a course that is currently being offered and will be offered again no later than Fall 2023. Faculty who participate will receive a \$2,500 stipend. Chambers asked if the design academy would last all day, and Louder said it would last from 10 a.m. to noon and they would work around teaching schedules.

Stewart then asked for items of other business. James and Hart gave an update on the spring commencement, which will look similar to commencements before COVID, and encouraged Council members to ask faculty to attend.

Brown shared that the Registrar's Office has improved final grading. Only courses being taught in the current term will appear when entering grades, and student names are now listed by last name. Grades from previous courses are available in the faculty dashboard. Final grading will open Monday, May 2 at 8:00 a.m.

Stewart announced that Trejos-Castillo has been named Vice Provost for International Affairs.

James explained that Institutional Research is gathering data on how researchers without a faculty workload contribute to educational activities as part of the IPEDS submission process. The deadline is Friday, April 22.

Stewart mentioned that Academic Council, Associate Deans Meeting, and Chairs Council may start meeting face-to-face or start using a hybrid model by September. Over the summer, different vice provosts will begin convening the meetings. James will convene Academic Council, Lauderdale will convene Associate Deans Meeting, and Durham DeCesaro will convene Chairs Council.

Dascanio invited everyone to the School of Veterinary Medicine ribbon cutting Friday, April 22.

With no other business or announcements, Stewart adjourned the meeting.