Texas Tech University
Academic Council

Meeting of February 21, 2023
1:30 PM, TLPDC 151 and via Zoom
Attendance

Present: Cindy Akers, Kathy Austin, Nurcan Bac, Andrea Bilkey, Stefanie Borst, Deedee Brown-Campbell, Chad Cain, Todd Chambers, Bonnie Cordell (for Clay Taylor), Robert Cox, John Dascanio, Debbie Davis, Mayukh Dass, Dottie Durband, Kristi Gaines, Heather Greenhalgh-Spencer, Lindsay Hallowell, Kaelene Hansen, Bret Hendricks, Jorge Iber, Darryl James (Chair), Rodney Lackey, Mitzi Lauderdale, Ryan Litsey, Brenda Martinez, Pat McConnel, Lissa Munoz, Kuhn Park, Austin Phillips, Pradip Sahu, Sarah Schwintz, Brian Shannon, Jaeki Song, Carol Sumner, Elizabeth Trejos-Castillo, Dino Villegas, and Janessa Walls.

Action Items:
   1. None.

James called the meeting to order by presenting the January minutes. With no comments or corrections, Durband moved to approve the minutes, Greenhalgh-Spencer seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Hallowell introduced the summary of course proposals, beginning with the voting items. Due to the number of proposals, the courses were voted on in batches. For items 1-22, Cox moved to approve, Hendricks seconded, and the items were approved. For items 23-33, Greenhalgh-Spencer moved to approve, Villegas seconded, and those items were approved. For items 34-58, Shannon moved to approve, Cox seconded, and they were approved. Iber moved to approve items 59-66, Schwintz seconded, and they were approved. Finally, for items 67-88, Cox moved to approve, Durband seconded, and the remaining courses were approved. Hallowell then gave an overview of the informational items.

Hallowell then introduced the program proposals. New program proposals consisted of a graduate minor in Applied Linguistics, a graduate certificate in Financial Health and Wellness, a graduate certificate in Human Sciences Education and Training, an undergraduate concentration for the Biology, B.S. in Premedical Health Sciences, and a graduate concentration for the Professional M.B.A. in Supply Chain and Optimization. The Environmental Design, M.S. and Finance, M.S.F. both had semester credit hour reductions; the Nutritional Sciences, M.S. proposed to add an online modality. The College of Engineering proposed to delete the undergraduate certificate in Cybersecurity for Critical Infrastructure. James mentioned that semester credit hour changes by more than 25% require SACSCOC notification.

The remaining program proposals had multiple changes. The Interior Design undergraduate minor proposed to reduce the credit hours and change the curriculum; the Geography, M.S. proposed to change its title to Geography and the Environment and to change its CIP code; and the Terminal History, M.A. proposed to reduce the credit hours and add an online modality. Talley moved to approve all the voting items as presented, Iber seconded, and the program proposals were approved. Hallowell then introduced the informational items, which were mostly curricular changes. Schwintz pointed out a typo in the summary regarding the INTS courses being removed from the B.A.A.S. and B.S. in Human Sciences.

For the next item of business, Hallowell mentioned that MUSI 2309, Survey of Popular Music, had been approved as a core Creative Arts course. James added that CHIN 3310 and GERM 3301 have been approved by the Multicultural Committee but are awaiting formal approval in Curriculog. Lauderdale asked if there could be discussions regarding the frequency of core course offerings, as multiple courses have been identified as being listed as core but are not being offered frequently or at all. James offered to search for specific THECB requirements or internal TTU requirements.

For the next item of business, Chambers informed the Council about the upcoming second annual TTU/SPC transfer summit on March 31, which will be hosted at the downtown SPC campus. More details are forthcoming.

Next, Chambers introduced the upcoming Advising Council and thanked the Council members for the opportunity to present to the individual colleges. Information is forthcoming on forming the actual council, pending Provost approval. Chambers highlighted that TTU's advances in technology to aid in advising will be the envy of other institutions. Lauderdale added that the previously mentioned transfer working group's goal was to charge this Advising Council with furthering transfer success.

Greenhalgh-Spencer asked how the push in Texas for community colleges to offer 4-year degrees will impact the type of transfers TTU is striving for. James mentioned that discussions are taking place about 4-year colleges offering 2-year degrees as well to increase completions. In addition, there are bills in progress to streamline the whole transfer process. Greenhalgh-Spencer made a comment about mandatory acceptance of credits for transfers. Lauderdale added that TTAC is furthering discussions on how to meet the legislated fields of study requirements for transfers as well as serve the students and the university.

For the next item of business, Lauderdale explained to the Council that the Registrar's Office needs help getting the SYNC/ASYNC field filled out in course scheduling. When that field is blank, it defaults to ASYNC, and it cannot be changed once the schedule is published. Monday, February 27 is the deadline to get those items entered before the schedule goes live. James asked why the default is ASYNC, and Martinez said they need to have the date and time to set courses as SYNC. Because the system defaults to ASYNC, adding days and times later can cause conflicts in student schedules. Greenhalgh-Spencer asked if there is the ability to list TBD as the date and time for 7000-level courses and above. Martinez said right now that is not an option, but they will look into it.

In items of other business, Austin gave kudos to her team and various other teams across campus for their work in launching the Raider Success Hub. Lauderdale reiterated those kudos and thanked everyone involved. She also announced that Phase 2 implementations are pending Board of Regents approval, and other projects are forthcoming, including predictive analytics modeling and a chat AI bot. She added that the live chat is active.

James asked for other items of other business. Hallowell mentioned that her team has started laying out the catalog, so any edits should be sent to her as soon as possible. She added that this meeting was the deadline to propose new and make changes to existing courses and programs in the print catalog. The deadline for the online catalog is the March Academic Council meeting. Hallowell reminded the Council that this year is the last year Official Publications will be printing the catalogs to distribute to the university, but discussions are ongoing about individual departments using the TTUHSC Print Center to print small numbers of catalogs if so desired. Litsey asked what will happen to the print archive. Hallowell said that Official Publications, the

Registrar's Office, and the Southwest Collection all have a print archive, and Official Publications will likely print a small number of catalogs each year to maintain that archive.

Schwintz asked Hallowell to clarify the deadlines for Academic Council approvals. Hallowell explained that new courses and new programs can be added to the online catalog at any time; however, course and program changes have deadlines to consider. Changes can be made to programs up to the beginning of the new academic year, but once the academic year begins, changes cannot be made to existing programs. Similarly, changes cannot be made to courses in a term for which registration is open. Those changes will get pushed to the next term.

Greenhalgh-Spencer asked James to clarify the notification deadlines for new programs beginning September 1. James explained that beginning September 1, there is a one-year planning notification requirement for on all new programs. He has asked THECB for clarification and is waiting for an answer. After September 1, within 90 days of notification, the THECB is supposed to provide a workforce evaluation of the program. Greenhalgh-Spencer asked if it is enough to get programs submitted in Curriculog by September 1, but James said programs must be submitted to the THECB by September 1. In sum, programs need to be approved at the May Board of Regents meeting to be sent to the THECB before that September 1 implementation date.

James reminded the Council that also effective September 1, all certificates, regardless of the number of hours, must be submitted to the THECB for notification but not approval. James has asked SACSCOC if TTU will be required to perform the entire Institutional Effectiveness process for all certificates going forward, but he is still waiting for their answer. Previously TTU only had to perform the IE process for state-authorized certificates.

Hearing no other items of other business or announcements, James adjourned the meeting.