

Academic Deans Council, July 28, 2015

1. Aggie Leadership Training Academy

Andrew Pena: Year-long program on leadership. Looking for a cohort of 18-22, deadline of August 4, for rising leaders. Inaugural class.

2. Student Success Navigators

Enrollment context: Enrollment will be down this fall. Every 1% in enrollment is about \$1 million in revenue. To ameliorate this drop, we need to all focus on retention.

Marissa Macias

- How can Navigators support academic advising?
- Every incoming student gets a Navigator, including international students.
- University Teaching Council — They will be point people for colleges.
- Partnership with colleges: Navigators will be trained in how colleges advise so they can reinforce advising messages.
- Freshmen will be assigned navigators by college.
- Hiring pool has at least 3 applicants from every college.
- UDirect — New program for degree mapping, and tool used with Navigators.
- Seeking students with at least a year left in their program.
- Hours will flex for Navigators and they will meet in residence halls or wherever students are.
- This is a late start — next year hope to have Navigators in place by Orientation.
- High-impact practices: Need help of faculty in referring to QuickConnect
- We are getting community assistants (Housing) involved.
- College Student Inventory: About 800 students have already taken this. Results in a dropout proneness score.
- Cohort building: will be looking for training to focus on building relationships.
- Additional discussion: We will use ethnic programs and other affinity groups.
- Tools for grad students — will be options for report backs to monitor trends, etc.

Training — Appreciative and Intrusive Advising and best practices.

Discussion: Include cultural competency training.

David Smith introduced as new Director of Assessment at NMSU.

3. Faculty Advising Training — this will be cancelled.

4. Standing reports

- **Faculty Senate:** not in session
- **ADAC**
 - **Math placement exam table** was updated to increase number of

students who place into Math 120. New table has been used this summer successfully,

- **Policy 6.82** is being discussed via email. Policy will have better definition of minors, majors, concentrations, etc. New policy is more comprehensive, and has approval processes for new programs and changes. Degrees, majors, minors, concentrations and certificates will be transcribed.
- **Cleaning up regulations** section of catalog (first 20 pages or so). Created a task force for basic skills language — look for this in August. Permission needed to take classes from other universities.
- **Screening for students** — looking at differences between international students
- **Common course numbering:** numbers indicate level – sequence – credits.

5. Old Business

Academic Administrator training

- This is court mandated and all must be trained by middle of month.
- Everybody must be trained, including people who supervise ESL instructors.
- Provost's Office is cross-checking list against department head list and will send notices to deans of people who have not attended and who have not signed up yet.

6. New Business

- **120 credit degree minimum**
 - Decision to change degree requirements will be faculty led.
 - Regents would like all degrees to be 120 as part of the Complete College America initiatives but understand that this is faculty driven. The expectation is that departments will discuss this in the fall.
 - Process to change degree programs distributed.
 - Discussion: LEAP initiative is a good model for general education. We will have a task force look at this in the fall.
 - Accreditation bodies must be considered regarding changes to degree programs.
 - Degree programs that do not change might be at a competitive disadvantage
- **Teaching evaluations**
 - Teaching evaluations for most faculty currently consist of student evaluations. We would be well served by adding other faculty evaluation tools. [update: policy email distributed to ADC July 29]
 - Alternative methods with additional weight: Every department could have a teaching evaluation committee that assesses teaching based on class visits.
 - Teaching academy has programs targeted at this.

- Peer assessment of teaching — does not have to be from a formal committee.
- Teacher evaluation: can we re-assess our evaluation form?
- Learning assessment is the most meaningful assessment
- There could be value in a common tool for comparison basis across colleges; also value for different tools (lab courses versus active learning versus lecture based are very different); regarding evaluations, there could be common questions and others that are customized. Student participation can be incentivized. Participation also increased when students felt heard.
- Thoughtful planning and communication will be key in faculty adoption.
- How will we get a mix of evaluation types and not just student evaluations?
- Consider co-teaching for a new faculty member with strong teachers. Could use pool of teaching awardees as leads for this.
- **Twice weekly class schedule**
 - Topic at Board of Regents retreat.
 - Examine possibility of Monday–Wednesday and Tuesday–Thursday classes with Friday for big block scheduling.
 - Discussion: Consider Friday–Saturday block, use more evening courses, use for field-based courses.
- **Tenure process for job candidates**
 - Job candidates need to have the regular process for tenure decisions. Form distributed for tenure approval. [Provost website updated to current form, 7/31/15].

7. Comments

- Thanks for attending the Strategic Planning meeting
- New faculty reception, August 25, 4–6, President and Provost
- Other comments
 - Southwest Health Disparities Research Conference, Afternoon, September 11, 1–5 in Domenici
 - PSL won \$75 million contract

Attendees: V. Chaitanya, E. Pontelli, S. Cooper, M. Chaiken, D. Thompson, S. Munson-McGee, D. Pope Davis, C. Menking, J. Hoffman, J. Bosland, S. Stovall, L. Reyes, E. Titus, D. Wagner, K. Boberg, D. Smith, D. Howard, M. Munson-McGee

Guests: A. Pena, M. Macias