



PROVOST'S COUNCIL
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
9:00 – 11:00am
STCN 130

FACILITATOR: Shane P. Martin

EXCUSED:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>LEAD</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Reflection	Mark Markuly		9:00 - 9:05 am
Strategic Planning Update	Bob Dullea & Jennifer Marrone	Information	9:05 - 9:20 am
Student Engagement and Learning Initiative and Faculty Engagement	Joelle Pretty, Sarah Watstein, Jeff Philpott	Information/Discussion	9:20 - 9:35 am
Hanover Research Report	Bob Duniway	Information/Discussion	9:35 - 10:05 am
Budget Updates	Di Di Galligar & Shane P. Martin	Information/Discussion	10:05 - 10:35 am
Academic Assembly Updates	Frank Shih	Information/Discussion	10:35 - 10:50 am
Announcements / Other Business	All	Information	10:50 - 11:00 am

Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2019

Reflection

Dr. Markuly provided the reflection, sharing thoughts about the fire at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris and a quote from Gandhi – “It is better to have a heart without words, than words without a heart.”

Strategic Planning Update

Jen Marrone and Bob Dullea gave a progress update on the Strategic Plan. Surveys of faculty, staff and students have been completed, and the co-chairs are pleased with the response rate. There is an all-day retreat on April 27 for the Strategic Planning Steering Committee to review data and formulate next steps. Cabinet & Deans meeting yet to come, and then a session at the Board of Trustees retreat on May 8-9. The Provost thanked the entire steering committee for their transformational work.

Student Engagement and Learning Initiative and Faculty Engagement

Dr. Philpott, Dean Watstein, and Dr. Pretty each presented ways that the university is addressing student and faculty engagement and retention.



First steps for students include working on course availability, advising, and barrier-busting. Moving forward with faculty engagement -- initiatives, programs and interventions are already happening. There is an impressive campus-wide level of will, momentum, energy, enthusiasm and hard work. Faculty are uniquely qualified to impact student success, and have been invited to several events to talk about these topics. A faculty advisory team will work hand-in-hand with the Student Engagement and Learning Committee. Inviting faculty into these conversations is critical. Looking for balance between urgency and thoughtfulness. Discussion of other avenues and opportunities to engage faculty in this important work. Also discussed the student role in this initiative.

Hanover Research Report

Hanover Research is a research organization engaged by the Provost to conduct an initial research study on Market Opportunities for Graduate Programs. Bob Duniway has been the liaison with Hanover, and shared a recent executive summary. The study evaluated student demand and labor market demands, and mapped those to our existing programs and degree offerings to show where opportunities for growth and challenge exist within our programs. There was a discussion of the methodology and findings, as well as opportunities for future research. We are currently finalizing a second study to look at differentiators, working on building the right instrument and audience for Hanover to use to conduct the research. Focused followup studies are essential before determining the next step for any program, but this is an important first step.

✓ Entire Report was sent to the Provost's Council on April 25.

Budget Updates

The Provost and Di Di Galligar presented information about the current status of the budget process. After an all-day meeting with the cabinet on Monday, the budget came together and will be submitted to the board for their May meeting. The downturn in graduate education continues to be a concern. The graduate market is changing rapidly, and we may not be changing fasten enough. An email was sent to faculty about compensation. The Cabinet has made faculty and staff compensation a priority, despite the tight times. Cabinet members in the room commented on the process, appreciation of the collaboration involved, why it was important to protect Academic Affairs, and that there was a top-level appreciation of the pain involved with reallocations, and that protecting faculty and staff compensation was important to everyone. Kudos were given to Di Di for her leadership throughout this cyle.

Academic Assembly Updates

Dr. Shih shared updates about the Academic Assembly. Nicole Moses was hired to provide administrative support to the Assembly. They are working on the website, committee restructuring, and record-keeping. It has been proposed that the University Rank & Tenure Committee become a sub-committee of AcA. Other topics were faculty welfare, sharing of information, demographics, and budget. Loss of rep from Matteo Ricci College. Bylaw changes are in progress with a committee of five faculty. It is slow but meaningful work. Looking to longer terms to address leadership transitions.

The Provost commented that the quality of conversations, debate, and recommendations is very strong. AcA is the official voice of our faculty, and the more that is known and adhered to, the more effective AcA will be. Proposed "Committee on committees" process was outlined.



Other Business

- Marilyn Crone extended an invitation to a Thurs April 25 event with McGuire regarding financial aid. Financial aid impacts enrollment, retention, budget, and bottom line. This is an important strategic opportunity for the university.
- The last Red Talk for this academic year is coming up: Tues May 14, by Rosa Joshi, MFA. The topic is: *Everybody's Shakespeare: Making Inclusive Spaces in Classical Theatre*