

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**Minutes**

**August 22, 2024**

**Present:** Leslie Griffin, Merideth Van Namen, Vicki Bingham, Fawn Ussery, Nora Gough-Davis, Valarie Morgan, Tomeka Harbin, Sydney Pittman, Joi Phillips

**Absent:** Kristen Land

**Guests:** Megan Smith

**Call to order:** A meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on August 22, 2024. The meeting convened at 8:30 AM with Provost Leslie Griffin presiding.

Agenda item	Comments/Discussion	Action taken	Responsible party
Approval of Agenda:	Motion to approve agenda was made by Dr. Tomeka Harbin and seconded Dr. Vicki Bingham. All in favor.	Approved	Leslie Griffin
Approval of Minutes:	Motion to approve minutes for Thursday, August 8, 2024, was made by Dr. Tomeka Harbin and seconded Dr. Vicki Bingham. All in Favor.	Approved	Valarie Morgan
<b>Informational Items:</b>			
Provost's Updates:	<p><b><u>Dr. Leslie Griffin provided the following updates:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There will be events forthcoming with Northwest Mississippi Community College. President Ennis is also fostering partnerships with other community colleges. Details will be shared.</li> </ol>		Leslie Griffin
Faculty Senate	<p><b><u>Dr. Nora Gough-Davis provided the following updates:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculty Senate requests information about <i>where</i> faculty are now tenured with the restructure: Dr. Griffin stated they were tenured to the division/school within the respective college.</li> <li>Faculty Senate's first meeting of the Fall 2024 semester is being held today, Thursday, August 22, 3-5 PM</li> </ol>		Nora Gough-Davis

<b>Old Business:</b>	None.		Leslie Griffin
<b>Action Items:</b>			

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<p><b>New Business:</b></p> <p><b>Curriculum and Course Actions</b></p>	<p><b><u>CEAH Curriculum Items:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Curriculum Action Request- BA in Humanities and Social Sciences-</b> Motion to approve the request for the new Bachelor of Arts in Humanities and Social Science was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Vicki Bingham. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Dr. Edwin Craft stated we would need to market all new degrees and begin adding marketing costs into our curriculum cost projections on curriculum/course action forms.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>Course Action Request- HSS 101- Introduction to Humanities and Social Sciences-</b> Motion to approve the request for the HSS 101- Introduction to Humanities and Social Sciences course was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Vicki Bingham. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></li> <li>3. <b>Course Action Request- HSS 499- Humanities and Social Sciences Capstone-</b> Motion to approve the request for the HSS 499- Humanities and Social Sciences Capstone course was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Vicki Bingham. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></li> </ol> <p><b><u>COBA Curriculum Items:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. <b>Curriculum Action Request- BA in Digital Media-</b> Motion to approve the request for the new Bachelor of Arts in Digital Media was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Edwin Craft. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></li> <li>5. <b>Curriculum Action Request- Minor in Digital Media-</b> Motion to approve the request for the new minor in Digital Media was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Merideth Van Namen. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></li> <li>6. <b>Course Action Request- MKT 420- Visual Branding Strategies-</b> Motion to approve the request for the MKT 420- Visual Branding Strategies course was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Vicki Bingham. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></li> </ol>		<p><b>Dr. Merideth Van Namen and Dr. Tomeka Harbin</b></p>
<p><b>Revision to the Policy on Tenure and Promotion</b></p>	<p><b><u>Policy on Tenure and Promotion:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Move to amend the policy on Tenure and Promotion statement was made by Dr. Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Tomeka Harbin             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Revision: “Each academic division/school shall have a standing tenure and promotion committee. These committees shall be comprised of at least three persons identified from among the tenured faculty members in the division/school” ; change</li> </ol> </li> </ol>		<p><b>Dr. Valarie Morgan</b></p>

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	division/school in all areas of the policy. <i>9- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i>		
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<b>Discussion:</b>	<p><b><u>Megan Smith- Director of Financial Aid- Policy on Academic Standing:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Academic Standing Policy- Must consider <i>academic standing</i> vs. <i>Satisfactory Academic Process (SAP)</i><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. A student can be in good standing with the university and not be in good standing with Financial Aid due to a number of qualitative/quantitative factors. FA must be as strict or stricter than the university’s policy.</li><li>b. Changes to academic standing rules could not be implemented before Fall 2025 due to financial aid processes</li><li>c. Pros of raising standard to 2.0: It would be easier to have a unified 2.0 across all student classifications.</li><li>d. Cons of raising standard to 2.0: The number of students who may be negatively impacted; students do have the opportunity to appeal financial aid decisions.</li><li>e. Currently, most appeals are approved but sometimes appeals are denied. When this happens, students must pay out of pocket for one semester or until they meet the standards.</li><li>f. There is an estimate of 50-60 students who are potentially below 2.0 each semester; Megan will review the numbers and get them to Joi Phillips for Academic Council’s review.</li><li>g. Dr. Griffin requested Meagan Smith come and give strategic updates to Academic Council. We will create a calendar for her to attend.</li><li>h. Many of our students are maxed out on the amount of loan money they’ve taken out; many are taking out higher rate loans; we need to be thinking about financial literacy and providing training.</li><li>i. Students’ loan debt and financial viability of degrees are both being reported to IHL.</li></ol></li></ol> <p><b><u>Dr. Leslie Griffin- Policy Revision:</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. Most of our policies need revision; we will be working on this over the next year.<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. <b><u>Academic Standing:</u></b> We will defer any discussion of the policy and related <b>Academic Improvement Plan and Request for Reinstatement Form</b> until we have the data from the Department of Financial Aid.</li><li>b. <b><u>Tenure and Promotion:</u></b><ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. The Policy on Tenure and Promotion will go before Faculty Senate today for review</li></ol></li></ol></li></ol>	
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	<p>with suggested amendments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ii. A committee will be identified by the Provost to revise the Policy on Tenure and Promotion and the Handbook on Tenure and Promotion.</li><li>iii. First reading of the Policies on Course Enrollment and Credit hour will occur at the next regularly scheduled Academic Council Meeting.</li><li>iv. Joi Phillips will work with the academic deans to revise the <b>Academic Improvement Plan and Request for Reinstatement Form.</b></li></ul>	
<b>Announcements:</b>	<p><b><u>The following announcements were made:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Fawn notified everyone that each college will have their own reference librarian, and these contacts will plan specific workshops for each college’s needs.</li><li>2. Dr. Griffin asked us to identify areas where training is needed: i.e. Banner Training, Canvas, Budgeting, etc.</li></ul>	
<b>Adjourned:</b>	10:47 a.m.	
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	September 5, 2024 at 8:30	