

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

September 12, 2024

Present: Leslie Griffin, Merideth Van Namen, Vicki Bingham, Fawn Ussery, Nora Gough-Davis, Valarie Morgan, Tomeka Harbin, Joi Phillips (via Zoom)

Absent: Kristen Land

Guests: Arlene Cash, Interim VP of Enrollment Management

Call to order: A meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on September 12, 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. Merideth Van Namen. All in favor.	Approved	Leslie Griffin
Guest Speaker: Arlene Cash- Interim VP of Enrollment Management	Presented on the merits of allowing students to use unofficial transcripts/ACT/SAT scores <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Counselors won't have to get all transcripts/ACT/SAT scores to us unless students are actually admitted.- This change expedites the application process and eliminates the most common drivers of non-completion- Dr. Van Namen asked how many students filled out applications (applied) and then were accepted and eventually committed.- Ms. Cash will provide a report with numbers related to admit, commit, matriculate for AC to review- Concerns were raised about the admission requirements being too low; Ms. Cash suggested we consider a special admission criteria (GPA and ACT score requirements) for programs of concern; the result will be students being denied for specific programs for which they do not meet criteria.- Delta State University's average ACT score is 17; GPA is 3.48- Official transcripts would be required for student registration for the following semester after admittance; a hold would be placed on students' accounts to prevent registration		Arlene Cash- Interim VP of Enrollment Management

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Approval of Minutes:	Motion to approve minutes for Thursday, August 22, 2024, was made by Dr. Vicki Bingham and seconded Dr. Merideth Van Namen. All in Favor.	Approved	Valarie Morgan
Informational Items:			
Provost's Updates:	<p><u>Dr. Leslie Griffin provided the following updates:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The SACSCOC Response Report was submitted September 11, 2024 (Congratulations!) 2. 3,000 student enrollment goal for Fall 2025- President's benchmark 3. Jeremy Dickenson- New VP of Enrollment Management starts next week; he will serve as the interim Director of IREP until December 31, 2024, then take his role as VP 4. Partnerships with Northwest, Mississippi Delta, and Coahoma Community Colleges are all in the works; deans are working to go deeper with the networking 5. The new degrees are still in the works; marketing monies will be put towards promoting the degrees; everyone should look at indirect accounts to see what pools of money are available 6. Strategic Plan 24-29 is finalized 		Leslie Griffin
Faculty Senate	<p><u>Dr. Nora Gough-Davis provided the following updates:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Committee Preferences Survey went out on September 10, 2024 2. A Faculty Needs Assessment will be created to allow faculty to express their concerns with anonymity 3. Dr. Griffin will attend the Faculty Senate Meeting scheduled for today 		Nora Gough-Davis
Old Business: Action Items:	None.		Leslie Griffin
New Business: Policies and Policy Related Forms	<p><u>First Reading of Policy on Course Enrollment:</u></p> <p>Motion to approve the current Policy on Course Enrollment was made by Valarie Morgan and seconded by Dr. Merideth Van Namen.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The policy on Course Enrollment was reviewed. No changes were needed. The Course Overload Request form (see below) will be linked to the policy to address the need to track 		Dr. Valarie Morgan & Joi Phillips

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	<p>approvals for students who exceed 19 hours. <i>8- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p> <p><u>First Reading of Policy on Credit Hour:</u> 1. The policy on Credit Hour was deferred for review to a smaller group of 3-4 members, which will be appointed by the Provost, due to the complexities around minimum minutes for courses.</p> <p><u>First Reading of Course Overload Request:</u> Motion to approve the Course Overload Request Form was made by Joi Phillips and seconded by Dr. Merideth Van Namen. The following discussion ensued: 1. Joi Phillip noted that she will work with OIT to have a stop in place to prevent students from registering for more than 19 hours without an override; overrides will only be allowed after the Course Overload Request Form is submitted to the Registrar’s office. <i>8- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p> <p><u>Second Reading of Academic Improvement Plan Form:</u> Motion to approve the Academic Improvement Plan Form was made by Joi Phillips and seconded by Dr. Merideth Van Namen. The following discussion ensued: 1. Edit to the form- pg. 4; Disclaimer section- editorial change (has-does not) 2. Will need to create a Microsoft Form for this moving forward <i>8- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p> <p><u>Review of the University Curriculum Committee’s Documents and Process:</u> Motion to approve the following University Curriculum Committee (UCC) makeup and rotation was made by Dr. Merideth Van Namen and seconded by Fawn Ussery.</p> <p>The UCC members will be dean appointed and serve two-year terms. There will be 2 representatives from each college: The College of Business and Aviation, The College of Education, Arts and Humanities, and The College of Nursing, Health and Sciences. There will be one representative from the library Reappointments are allowed. The chair of the committee will be appointed by the committee at the first meeting of the academic year. <i>8- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p>		
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Discussion:	<p><u>Bridge Community Development Center (Disabled Students Grant):</u> 1. Service groups in each college should explore volunteer opportunities (ways to help) 2. Deans will investigate this and report to Provost on ideas</p> <p><u>University Administrative Committees:</u> 1. Will revise to reflect new organizational structure 2. Will add the University Curriculum Committee to the list with the guidelines approved above</p>		
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Announcements:	<u>The following announcements were made:</u> 1. NC-SARA Training next Wednesday and Thursday mornings (9/18/24 and 9/19/24)		
Adjourned:	11:37 a.m.		
Next Meeting:	September 26, 2024 at 8:30		