

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes

September 26, 2024

Present: Leslie Griffin, Merideth Van Namen, Vicki Bingham, Fawn Ussery, Nora Gough-Davis, Valarie Morgan, Tomeka Harbin
Absent: Kristen Land, Joi Phillips, Edwin Craft
Guests: None

Call to order: A meeting of the Academic Council was held in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room on September 26, 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. Vicki Bingham and seconded by Fawn Ussery. All in favor.	Approved	Leslie Griffin
Approval of Minutes:	Motion to approve minutes for Thursday, September 12, 2024, was made by Dr. Vicki Bingham and seconded Dr. Nora Gough-Davis. 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. Project 3000- The President has a goal to increase enrollment increase to 3000 students by fall 2025. This is a real headcount; not including dual credit; includes first time transfers and graduate students<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Everyone on campus will have a role in this projectb. There should be considerations for enrollment drops (i.e. teach outs, grants ending)c. Ms. Cash stated the following: This project is focusing on both retention and recruitment; we must go above and beyond with our retention efforts; there are Saturday campus tour options; we need about 300 new studentsd. October 23, 2024- High School Senior Day; every senior in the state of MS has been invited, as well as out of state students who have expressed an interest in our programs2. Dr. Griffin has appointed a working group to look at the policy on Credit Hour led by Dr. Tomeka Harbin. The other deans have been asked to appoint someone from their college.		Leslie Griffin and Arlene Cash

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	<p>3. We will be working on a strategic marketing plan for our new degrees over the next month</p> <p>4. EAB (The Marketing Company)- Ms. Cash stated we need to use the word optimization to improve the hits our program pages get on the website</p> <p>5. Chairs training- Topics include: What a signature means; scheduling</p> <p>6. The deans searches to fill interim positions should begin soon</p>		
Faculty Senate	<p><u>Dr. Nora Gough-Davis provided the following updates:</u></p> <p>1. Attendance Policy: Faculty are concerned that the right has been removed from them to create their own attendance policy. The topic will be researched further.</p> <p>2. Faculty Load: There are concerns related to faculty load with no overload pay (see Faculty Senate Minutes_9_12_24); The President said the Provost must sign off on approving full pay for low enrolled class; accompanying this memo would be an explanation/rationale of how this class will not be taught again with low enrollment; we will appoint a group from Faculty Senate/AC to look at the Faculty Rights and Responsibilities (group of 4).</p>		Nora Gough-Davis

Old Business: Action Items:	None.		Leslie Griffin
New Business: Policies and Policy Related Forms	<p><u>First Reading of Policy on Attendance of Online Classes:</u> Motion to suspend the second reading of the Policy on Attendance of Online Classes was made by Dr. Vicki Bingham and seconded by Dr. Merideth Van Namen. Motion to delete the current Policy on Attendance of Online Classes was made by Dr. Vicki Bingham and seconded by Dr. Merideth Van Namen.</p> <p>1. The policy on Class Attendance covers everything covered in the Policy on Attendance of Online Classes, therefore the Policy on Attendance of Online Classes is not needed. <i>7- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p> <p>We will add a first reading of the Policy on Class Attendance to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>First Reading of the 26-27 Calendar:</u></p> <p>1. We need to work on the Hire Dates issues for EAFs for Summer Terms 2. Joi will investigate the dates for grades submission for our second reading</p> <p><u>Review of the Kent and Janice Wyatt and Bryce Griffis Development Funds:</u> We have approximately \$3500 allotted in the total funds for Bryce Griffis Motion to give each applicant for Bryce Griffis \$250 after the review by the Research Committee was made by Dr. Tomeka Harbin; seconded by Dr. Vicki Bingham. <i>7- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p>		Dr. Valarie Morgan & Leslie Griffin

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	<p>Motion to give each applicant for Kent and Janice Wyatt Development Funds 80% of the total request (other pledged funds will be subtracted from the 80% of the original amount to determine the remaining expense for faculty) was made by Dr. Tomeka Harbin and seconded by Dr. Vicki Bingham.</p> <p align="center"><i>7- approved, 0-nay, 0- abstentions. Motion carried.</i></p>		
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Discussion:	None		
Announcements:	None		
Adjourned:	10:43 a.m.		
Next Meeting:	October 10, 2024, at 8:30 am in the Janice Wyatt Conference Room		