

Deans Council
September 4, 2024

Meeting commenced at 9:00 a.m.

1. Opening Remarks

Lorenzo Smith

- Dr. Smith asked the deans to make a few comments at future extended cabinet meetings about their college. He wants the president to hear what they are doing.
- We are moving to centralized room scheduling which will be handled by the registrar's office, with a new position. There have been many issues over the years. This will allow us to use classrooms correctly and improve our SUE score, directly impacting funding.

2. Transfer Policy

Marc Guidry

- The current transfer policy is co-owned by Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management; therefore, Dr. Lee Furbeck joined the meeting to discuss this item.
- Following a discussion at the last extended cabinet meeting, it is clear we are not doing enough to attract transfer students.
- We will be making a change to the HOP allowing students to transfer up to 90 hours.
- Transfer credits will be reviewed closely to ensure they meet our standards. Currently the average number of credits being transferred is 56.
- We need to receive more transfer applications. We want to erase any idea that we are not transfer friendly.
- As part of enrollment management's strategic plan, a dedicated transfer admissions person and academic advisor will be hired.
- Dr. Johnson stated we need to offer more online options as many transfer students are non-traditional and are not going to move to Nacogdoches.
- Freshman want face to face classes but transfer students want online options.

- We are losing BAAS transfer students to UT Tyler because we are twice the cost as our nearest competitor. These are returning adult learners, who need competitive tuition packages and online classes.
- UH Texas State and Sam Houston are where we lose a lot of transfer students as they are in close proximity to a metropolitan area.

3. **Any Other Business**

- The date for deans' presentations to the extended cabinet is Monday, December 2.
- Each presentation will be ten minutes with five minutes for Q&A. The deans should provide handouts. This will be a sit-down discussion rather than PowerPoint presentation.
- Dr. Wurtz reported the procurement process is very slow and results in money being left on the table. The deans are trying to spend all the money they are awarded, but there are obstacles. Dr. Smith stated this should be discussed at extended cabinet.
- The procurement process is very wrong. This time of year, buyers are questioning purchases and slowing the process down.
- We are a twelve-month operation and need access to our funds for the entire time. Finance is shutting down our system way to soon. Nothing can be done in August.
- The deans also stated Banner is not a reliable indication of how much is available. Colleges are keeping their own shadow budgets.
- Ginger stated the UT system demands this year have been somewhat unexpected and we are getting used to a new way working with UTS. We will invite Judi to a future meeting to discuss financial processes.

4. **Summer Camps**

Gary Wurtz

- Dr. DeLaney-Fields is meeting with some people about summer camps and looking at reducing costs.
- Dr. Wurtz stated these are a strong recruiting tool and the college should not be losing money in order to offer them.
- Fine Arts does not make money from these camps. They are losing money.

- The university has made it hard to run these camps. There are mandatory background checks for everyone at \$50 per person. There are so many additional requirements.
- Can someone complete a study and find out what it really costs for students to stay here. What should we be charging for summer camps?
- Dr. Johnson stated that the pre-law camp is a great recruiting tool but they are considering cancelling due to increased costs.
- For Study Abroad we calculate what it costs to offer and then we charge the minimum.
- The question is, do we want these camps?

5. Date of Next Meeting

- September 18, 2024

Meeting adjourned 10:33 a.m.

Attendees: Lorenzo Smith, Marc Guidry, Sharon Brewer, Ginger Walker, Judy Abbott, Kim Childs, Hans Williams, Gary Wurtz, Tim Bisping, Joyce Johnston (for Dustin Knepp), Forrest Lane, Lee Furbeck