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April 2011 Minutes

USM Council of Chairs

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Council of Chairs

April 7, 2011
115 Southern Hall

Minutes

Attendance: B. Bateman, A. Branton, C. Campbell, C. Dixon, J. McGuire, M. Miles, K. Nugent, B. Powell, K. Reidenbach, K. Yadrick, J. Zhang.

1.0 Call to Order: 12:15PM

2.0 Guest: Dr. John Meyer, Textbook Committee

The presentation began with an overview of the Textbook committee (aka Book Store Advisory committee) and the goals to seek lower cost of textbooks, to protect academic freedom locally and to reach agreements with Barnes and Nobel toward these goals. A discussion regarding the textbook policies followed. The primary concern is guidelines set by IHL to “make every effort” in selection of a textbook for 3 years for 100 and 200 level classes with more than 24 students. Faculty are “strongly encouraged” to select the same text for 2 years for 300 and 400 level classes of 24 students or larger when taught every semester. Deadlines for ordering new texts needs to be met by mid-semester before the next semester to insure receipt of textbook materials needed for courses. Custom textbook or collected works that are bundled are discouraged. Older editions of texts are difficult to purchase as they are often out of print and publishers cannot fill these orders. Purchase of electronic textbooks is under review at this time.

3.0 Approval of agenda: Approved.

4.0 Approval of minutes: Approved.

5.0 Committee reports from CoC representatives

5.1 Provost Council—Chris Campbell reporting. No report.

The Committee on Committees requests that the CoC Bylaws be edited, specifically “Removal for cause ...” Being chair of Council of Chairs excludes one from chairing other USM committees.

5.2 Chair Development Committee—Kathy Yadrick. No report.

5.3 Faculty Handbook Committee—Michael Miles reporting.

Discussed term limits for the position of department chair and also compensation for chairs is a current concern.

5.4 Strategic Enrollment & Planning Council—Chris Campbell. No report.

5.5 Space Utilization and Allocation Review Committee—Kathy Yadrick. No report.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 CoC website/Campus Hub – Ann Branton. Contacted Kevin Sellers to update the CoC webpage and transfer documents to the CampusHub site for CoC.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Advising process on Gulf Coast is a serious concern as GC does not require students to be advised in their degree program. This pilot is intended to reduce the “Southern Shuffle” experienced by students on the Gulf Coast. Chairs of academic departments are not adequately involved in the process or discussion as retention, persistence and graduation data will be impacted. Hattiesburg campus

chair and faculty are not included in Gulf Coast decision making process to incorporate criteria for advisement. Changes in budgetary authorities were made without consultation. These changes have unforeseen impact. Concern was expressed about centralizing the Coast campus authority without communicating intentions with program administrative authority.

8.0 Announcements/Reminders

8.1 Next meeting: May 5, 2011: Guest, Dr. Denis Wiesenburg, VP-Research

8.2 Suggested that Dr. Frances Lucas, VP Gulf Coast campus be invited for the June 2nd meeting.

9.0 Adjourned at 1:45PM.