

8-12-2016

August 2016 Minutes

USM Council of Chairs

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Council of Chairs
August 12, 2016
Noon-2 p.m.
LAB 209 (Dean's conference room)

PROPOSED AGENDA

- 1.0 Call to order – Ann Marie Kinnell, Chair
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda
- 3.0 Guest Speaker: Dr. Douglas Vinzant, Vice President-Finance & Administration

The invitation to Dr. Vinzant was extended as a result of the elimination of the Computer Exchange Program and of other questions the CoC had about how decisions are made by Administrative Affairs. Vinzant discussed institutional decision making, resource constraint, priorities, federal compliance issues, and the context under which institutions are now operating. USM is not given additional resources to support additional (new) federal mandates/compliance issues. In result, each year, balancing revenue and expenses to be compliant is more and more difficult. These “forces” all are part of the landscape of our institution at the moment.

With regard to the elimination of the CEP:

- Fiscal year closed out with an enrollment (tuition) decline and appropriation reduction.
- Vinzant trusts that the Provost is working with chairs and faculty in decision making. At USM, Vinzant works the closest with the Provost (followed up by Chad Driscoll and the President).
- The timeline: Appropriation reduction was not known until late March. Permanent 3.4% reduction was final number (Which was higher than expected). IHL board approved appropriations for individual institutions in May meeting. USM received allocation info in May.
- Direct reports presented their solutions to budget reductions to Vinzant. ITech: Under resourced in terms of personnel. Vinzant is working the make our technology infrastructure more relevant, effective, etc. we are struggling to keep up with the demands that our campus has. He is attempting to do so without new money. He is interested in enterprise solutions, not local level solutions.
- CEP elimination was the result of “the least worst” option in terms of a cut we could take.

- He said he would have liked to have had the benefit of running the final picture/decision back through the university community. He regrets this.
- He said numerous times that we need to talk with each other and that communication is important. The CoC pointed out that the CEP elimination was announced on the USM mailout.

Other point: the Comprehensive Liability Insurance issue.

- We are contending with this as a result of litigation. Vinzant is an advocate of send out RFP for our insurance carrier. He is concerned with limiting our exposure. The data sets that were part of the quote were the result of the data and course/enrollment information Chairs were asked to provide. USM did not have a handle on the comprehensive nature of the activities our student were engaged in. Chairs were not given full information on the nature of the request. Student fees were raised in result and chairs were not given this information, either in full or in part.

Many CoC representatives responded to Vinzant's explanation with examples at the local and more global level. He said that he can appreciate our concerns over not hearing about it; he says that the timeframe was a determining factor in the way the decision was communicated.

Vinzant concluded by reiterating that he welcomes invitations to speak with this group. Dr. Rehner mentioned that chairs would appreciate being involved in either decision making or be informed of decisions that have been made earlier. This would be a benefit to unit level planning. Dr. Vinzant proposed certain times of the year that would be preferable, including after 10 Day enrollment numbers are out and Feb.-March.

Vinzant "suggested" communicating to Senior Administration that we would like to be involved in the decision making/feedback process earlier on.

A recap of capital campaigns was given.

Parking: Hattiesburg: <\$24k have same rate. >\$24k rate is increased \$18/year. (\$162/year). GP campus has own rate and own responsibility for maintenance. Parking structure will only be surface parking. There is now a financial plan in place for parking. Money raised from parking stays on the campus in which it is raised. Vinzant discussed the next 5-10 years of transport and parking plans.

4.0 Approval of Minutes from 2015-2016 meetings – Stacy Reischman Fletcher, Secretary

5.0 Executive Committee Reports

5.1 Academic Leadership Council

Kinnell, Reischman Fletcher, Rehner will attend an all-day retreat on Monday, Aug. 15.

5.2 Executive Committee meeting with Provost

The Executive Committee discussed the CEP elimination with Provost Moser. Thus, the 8/12 meeting.

6.0 Committee Reports, internal

5.1 Chair Development Committee – Wayne Kelly, past- Chair (closing out?)

7.0 Committee Reports, external / Liaisons to university committees

7.1 Committee on the Evaluation of Teaching – No report

7.2 Faculty Handbook Committee – Tisha Zelner

New versions will be published on the Provost's website soon.

7.3 University Assessment Committee

Susan Hart will serve from CoC.

GEC. 06 will gone from degree plans 17-18.

7.4 Search Committee for Associate Vice President for Human Resources – Wayne Kelly

8.0 Old Business

We have none.

9.0 New Business

9.1 Development of CoC priorities for 2016-2017

Please provide feedback to Dr. Kinnell. The Executive Committee might have ideas for priorities after Monday's Academic Leadership Team retreat.

10.0 Adjourn