

Prairie View A&M University
Prairie View, Texas 77446

UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, March 5, 2015
John B. Coleman Library, Room 508
3:00 pm

Those Present

Dr. Arshad Alam
Dr. Douglas Butler
Mr. Don Byars
Dr. Ali Fares
Ms. Deborah Dungey
Dr. Walle Engedayehu
Ms. Tina Montgomery
Ms. Tracey Moore
Dr. Kay Norman
Dr. James Palmer
Dr. Sarina Phillips
Dr. Ikhlas Sabouni
Dr. Kitty Warsame
Dr. Philisie Washington - TTVN

Those Absent

Dr. Tamara Brown
Dr. E'Loria Campbell
Dr. Myrna Cintron - EA
Dr. Lin Li - EA
Dr. Felecia Nave - EO
Ms. Desirae Price
Dr. Cheryle Snead-Greene
Dr. James Wilson - EO
Dr. Yanggao Yang - EA

Guests

Shayla Wiggins (attending for Dr. Snead-Greene)
Tina Montgomery (Registrar's Office)

The University Academic Council (UAC) was convened at approximately 3:05 p.m. on Thursday, March 05, 2015, with Dr. Sarina Phillips, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, presiding. The location of this meeting was in the John B. Coleman Library, Room 508. Dr. Phillips welcomed all members and guests that were present and officially called the meeting to order.

AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED

- I.** The Minutes from the 02/05/2015 meeting were motioned for approval by Dr. Warsame, and seconded by Dr. Butler. Minutes from the 02/19/2015 meeting were motioned for approval by Mr. Byars, and seconded by Ms. Moore. Both meeting minutes were voted and upon and approved.

II. Task force Assignments

- a. TF#4 - Mr. Byars, Chair** – There was a meeting with the taskforce students from the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences, and also outside expertise to present their findings. Presenting were Mr. Frank Ladeaux and Dr. Alvin Johnson. Dr. Johnson introduced himself as the Dean, College of Agriculture Human

Sciences, and also leads the university's Land Grant Program. Presented today was an amendment to the Agriculture Degree program. The intent is to make the program competitive, challenging and attractive. The following options were presented:

- i. Option #1 – Agricultural Economics and AgriBusiness – Streamlined offerings; make sure students are attracted to the program, and when they have completed the program, they can compete with any other university.
- ii. Option #2 – Agricultural Science Teaching – Dr. Johnson visited with Taralton State University, which has 1600 students. The way to grow enrollment is to create a pipeline of agricultural teachers. The State of Texas has 1500 high school teachers; 6 graduated from Prairie View; the remaining are from other colleges. Students are mainly referred to the program. The Plan will take 7-8 years to implement. Consider a summer day program for teaching students.
- iii. Option #3 – Animal Science Program –Dr. Johnson is proposing to add two tracks to the program: (1) Pre- Veterinary Science and (2) Animal Science. Eleanor Green, Associate Dean, visited with them, and she will be opening slots for PV's post-graduate students.
- iv. Option #4 - The Plant & Soil Sciences program in which changes were made to the courses, which would help students when they transfer to other colleges.
- v. Motion to approve the changes was made by Dr. Sabouni; seconded by Dr. Butler. The motion was approved by the Council, and will be recommended to the Provost for approval.

b. TF#2 – Dr. Fares – Update on HUPF4032

- i. Task Force reviewed documentation. Comments were shared with the department to be addressed by the department. The department was not given a deadline, however, concerns are minor, and should be accomplished by next report out on April 2.
- ii. Math proposal is to delete course MATH1203; the reason being that the course hasn't been offered in a long time. Dr. Ferris is recommending approval for the deletion of the course. Dr. Wasame motioned that the course be deleted, followed by Dr. Washington seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously passed.

c. TF#3

- i. **Dr. Engedayehu – Definition of a Credit Hour** - The Council reviewed and discussed the documented definition of "credit hour". A motion was made by Dr. Wasame to accept the proposed definition (to be forwarded to

the Provost), and seconded by Mr. Byars. The motion was unanimously passed.

- ii. **Dr. Wasame – Accepting D's (Grades)** – The vote was postponed until April 2.

d. TF#5 – Dr. Norman – Consider an Academic Contract for Students With GPA 0.0 to 1.0

- i. Ms. Bradford, Retention Specialist, provided a presentation. Conditionally admitted students will need to be reviewed to determine the types of courses in which they will be allowed to enroll. Structure may need adjusting in the second semester based on the academic performance (in the first).
- ii. Dr. Norman provided a draft Contract for the Council to review. The academic policy would need to be updated to coincide with the Contract. Dr. Engedayehu made the following motion: (a) amending the current policy for suspension of students who fall below 1.0 in their first semester; and (b) looking into a program that would support freshmen and sophomore students whose grade point average falls below 2.0 in the first semester. The motion was seconded by Dr. Ferris, and carried by a unanimous vote.

III. Reminder of TF Assignment Report-Outs

- a. Due April 2
 - i. TF#3 - Accepting D's
 - ii. TF#2 - Psychology Classes from Juvenile Justice & Psychology
 - iii. TF#5 - Transfer Admission GPA Double Major & Dual Degree Policy
- b. Due May 7
 - i. TF#1 – Non-Traditional Grades

IV. Old Business

- a. Dr. Phillips is working on supporting documentation to accompany each curriculum submission.
- b. Dr. Phillips will be meeting with Ms. DeWitt about changes to the UAC website.
- c. Dr. Phillips will have an update on the curriculum system
- d. Problems with the shared drive need to be addressed to Dr. Phillips.
- e. By-Laws are still a work in progress.

V. Adjournment

- There being no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.