

CHAIRS AND DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 2015 – 1:00 p.m.

Attending: C.Asleson, L.Bauer, J.Bender, S.Bergmeier, B.Carlson, R.Colvin, S.Downard, H.Duschinski, J.Dyer, T.Eisworth, R.Frank, J.Gilliom, S.Gradin, J.Grant, L.Hatch, D.Ingram, K.Jellison, D.López, C.Mattley, B.McCarthy, S.Miner, R.Muhammad, W.Owens, B.Partyka, A.Ritchie, R.Rossiter, M.Vis, M.White, J.White

Information Items:

- Chairs were invited to submit ideas for projects/purchases with projected budgets in the neighborhood of \$5,000-\$200,000. They should be requests for one-time money and should be received in the college office by mid-February for possible consideration by the Provost and others seeking special investment ideas.
- Departmental budget meetings have concluded. Data is still needed from some departments.
- The Arts and Sciences/Regional Higher Education (A&S/RHE) Task Force has completed its work and their report will be sent out for discussion at the next chairs and directors meeting. The task force report makes recommendations in the areas of communication and collaboration, staffing approvals, and course scheduling. The formation of a standing committee is recommended.
- Six members of the Board of Trustees will visit campus on Jan.22, and the college will give a 90-minute presentation on the mission and accomplishments of the College of Arts and Sciences. Five faculty will speak as part of the presentation.
- Curricular issues - Students are now able to be wait-listed for courses during registration. Not all advisors are familiar with this new option, so training opportunities need to be provided. Laurie Hatch has been working with UCC and the Registrar's Office to make cross-listed courses available to students. She will send out the questions and answers from a recent meeting of A&S curriculum chairs with the chairs of ICC and UCC and the university's curriculum technology representative.
- Departments were encouraged to make progress on their workload documents and send them to the college office by the end of Spring term.
- Mike Williford from Institutional Research and the Provost have invited AQIP representative Doug Eder to return to assist departments with student learning assessment. He will be on campus Feb.10-11 for individual or group meetings. Contact Laurie Hatch if interested in meeting with Dr. Eder.

Future of Alumni Relations Efforts:

Connecting students to alumni is an important way to provide mentorship to the students and to keep alumni connected to Ohio University, which encourages donations. University Alumni Relations has not been open to sharing the anticipated cost of a staff person to help the college with alumni outreach. Chairs were asked to highlight department efforts to connect with their alumni. Responses included:

- Distinguished Alumni Award recipients have visited to give presentations and meet with students.
- Students were invited to attend a panel discussion on alumni opportunities after graduation.
- A mentoring program has been developed.
- A conference included a panel on networking for students.
- A faculty member has been named to serve as an alumni liaison to identify alumni who want to be involved with the department and its students and to facilitate that involvement.

Possible next steps include polling departments to determine what is needed, collecting information to develop a database, and creating a step-by-step guide to inform departments how to retrieve data and who to contact for assistance with alumni information and outreach.

College Commencement Receptions:

Chairs were asked about the value of hosting college undergraduate and/or graduate commencement receptions. It was the general consensus that, because of the size of the College of Arts and Sciences, students identify more with their departments than with the college. College homecoming events have proven to be more popular.

Faculty Compensation Initiative:

With year two approaching, data from year one has been analyzed and, although three years were planned, it is proposed that year two of the FCI may not be needed. A decision needs to be made about the magnitude and how to distribute the FCI raises. The amount can go as high as \$540,000. Chairs were asked to send names of faculty who haven't been treated equitably. A five-year composite look back at TRS scores is being collected and will likely be part of the FCI distribution formula. Promotion bonus raises will improve the standing of all ranks over time. Dean Frank acknowledged that something must be done to address below average compensation; the question becomes how much can be done.