

CHAIRS AND DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, October 7, 2015 | Ellis 113
1:00-3:00 p.m.

Attending: C. Asleson, L. Bauer, J. Bender, S. Bergmeier, B. Carlson, E. Delehanty-Schultz, H. Duschinski, J. Dyer, T. Eisworth, R. Frank, J. Grant, S. Gradin, L. Hatch, D. Ingram, K. Jellison, D. López, C. Mattley, B. McCarthy, R. Muhammad, W. Owens, B. Partyka, A. Ritchie, B. Shambora, C. Thompson, M. Vis, J. White, M. White

Guest: Brad Cohen, Senior Vice Provost for Instructional Innovation

1. Information items

- a. Brief Presentation & Introduction: Brad Cohen, Senior Vice Provost for Instructional Innovation

B. Cohen is new to the campus coming from the University of Minnesota. His title is Vice Provost for Instructional Innovation and will be overseeing a combined new office that includes the Center for Teaching and Learning, Academic Technologies, and E-Learning. Cohen discussed the dynamics of innovation and barriers to it. Many universities face tradeoffs among cost efficiency, program quality and student access. How do we attempt to address any one of these areas without causing problems for the others? Current strategic planning is further complicated by the disruptive changes in higher education that have produced a “VUCA” environment, that is, one characterized as Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous. We need to think optimistically but have to acknowledge we don’t know what the future holds. University wide we need to figure out ways to make innovative ideas more welcome - instead of road blocks we should encourage support. Infrastructure must be built and maintained to support innovation.

- b. Marketing- Lori Bauer

Bauer reported that the FY marketing base budget has been established for this year. The budget includes web services, consolidated themes marketing and undergraduate fliers for each department. It does not include significant funds for freelance writing, photography, or design and printing. Ohio University is moving into the area of integrated marketing to be implanted sometime in January. All CAS departments as well as University administrative offices such as Admissions will be working together through digital channels including marketing, etc. This will allow the College to plan strategies/messages and focus on specific departmental needs and information such as recruiting.

- c. AQIP update- Laurie Hatch

Hatch updated the group on the upcoming AQIP site visit scheduled for November 2 - 4.

Update regarding College web site and updated student learning assessment reports

-8 departments have submitted updated assessment reports.
-1 department has indicated their assessment report will remain the same.
Please confirm with Hatch if your department has a new report or will continue with the current.
Thank you to Bauer for setting up the website to include reports. CAS is the only College with all student learning assessment plans on their College webpage.

New announcements regarding the site visit:

-AQIP requires a student survey to be conducted. The survey has been sent out. Hatch will forward the results when they are available.

-There will be a public comment period with a notice in local newspapers giving the community an opportunity to weigh in.

Hatch noted that faculty members should not be getting random calls requesting a synopsis of the university mission statement. The AQIP team will be randomly requesting course syllabi and faculty CVs. It is not known at this time how these requests will be made. The draft schedule includes a meeting on November 3rd at 8:00 for department chairs/directors university wide to meet with the site visitors. The Provost's Office will be issuing invitations to this meeting. Hatch will forward the finalized schedule when she receives it.

d. CAS/RHE Advisory Committee- Laurie Hatch

The CAS/RHE Task Force from last year has evolved into an Advisory Committee. In addition to Hatch current members will continue working with the committee this year - D. Lopez, M. Lucas, C. Mattley, B. Partyka, M. White. The committee is a positive example at OU encouraging at least two other Colleges to form similar groups. There will be a joint CAS/RHE leadership meeting on December 15. Please send Hatch requests for agenda items, ideas or collaboration and items of concern.

2. Discussion items

a. College level promotion & tenure process

McCarthy reported approximately 35 (19 Group I and 16 Group II) candidates are applying for promotion and tenure. In the past committees of nine have been formed for each Group I candidate. Committees are formed based on discipline, rank, diversity, and availability. Two group II committees were formed - one to consider all Senior Lecturers and the second for the Associate Lecturers.

The role of the committee is to look at dossier materials and evaluate for P&T policy/procedure adherence. The Committee helps to flag and evaluate evidence of required information. It is not the job of the college committee to make an independent assessment of the quality or productivity of the candidate except under unusual circumstances. That is the job of the departmental faculty. The committee serves as advisory to the Dean..

The current process requires a large amount of time in scheduling, processing and the selection of committee members. McCarthy has communicated with other departments (both on and off campus) and determined that the current A&S process is unique. Frank noted that he has no documentation for why the current practices were adopted.

There was discussion regarding updating the current process by not having individual committees for each group I candidate. There would be one committee for Professor and a second for Associate Professors similar to the Group II process. Several suggestions were made regarding the selection of the committees. McCarthy will continue to review the current process and present a proposed update at the next Chairs and Directors meeting.

b. Summer programs- Haley Duschinski

Duschinski described the newly formed Summer Law Trial Institute. Planning began last spring with the pilot planned for summer 2016. The program will be offered to high school students in Southeastern Ohio hoping to develop legal talent and students interested in law. The group has applied for a grant from the Ohio State Bar Foundation for funding the first year. Some of the many benefits identified in having a summer program include participants likely to feed into undergraduate enrollment and the credit-plus program.

c. "Absentee" faculty

Due to lack of time tabled for discussion at a later date.