

April 21 – Chairs Council – Faculty Senate Chambers (3:00-4:30 PM)

Managed Print Solutions Follow-up
Student Success Initiatives Update

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REPORTS

Approval of Minutes from March 24

Update from Chairs Exec with Provost and Dean's Cabinet meetings

Fall 2014 Admissions / Applications Update

General Education Courses – update Upper Division forms to reflect current offerings

Faculty Senate – encourage faculty participation on standing committees

NEW BUSINESS

Advising Roles and Responsibilities discussion

Elections for 2014-2015

2014-2015 Meeting Schedule

4/2/2014 – Deans Cabinet Meeting

1. Dianna Rust discussed progress on the QEP project. Results of the student focus group meetings are located on the QEP site. A survey has been distributed to the campus via email to receive input on themes and ideas for the project and all are encouraged to provide feedback.
2. The draft of the advising model was discussed and is being distributed to faculty for feedback.
3. Chairs are encouraged to review courses that are no longer offered. Chairs will be given a report of these courses that have not been offered recently (4 years for undergrad and 2 years for grad) and will need to either inactivate or justify keeping those courses. This should be done on an annual basis in the future and is part of a “truth in advertising” effort.
4. Chairs are encouraged to review the draft of the Outside Employment, Extra Compensation and Duals Services Agreement policy that was distributed for campus comment recently. The draft is located at <http://www.mtsu.edu/policies/pending/index.php> and the comment deadline is May 1, 2014.
5. Dr. Bartel discussed the possible impact of the Governor's amended budget announced recently; the reduced budget is due to low tax receipts. Dr. Bartel noted the new budget will likely reduce the amount of funding to MTSU from the state, but it is not clear the exact impact. Further, some elected officials have indicated they may not support a tuition increase.

4/14/2014 – Chairs Exec with Provost

1. The issue of the P&T policy revision and how it may impact tenure-track faculty “mid-stream” was discussed. Dr. Bartel did not feel this would have any negative impact on those already in process since the changes are relatively minor. For those applying for professor, there is a new procedure for having outside review of scholarship; this may need to be phased in over a year or two to give faculty time to comply.
2. The Provost indicated there would likely be several academic members of the search committee for the Vice Provost for Student Success. This search process is likely to begin in the very near future.

3. The Provost is aware of the issue with processing graduate applications and is optimistic these will be addressed in the near future with the appointment of the new associate dean as well as through some staffing issues.
4. There was a discussion of the use of previously earmarked funds for tenure-track faculty for the new professional advisors. The Provost reminded the group that 35 new faculty lines were hired last year and that enrollment has continued to decline. It was decided that hiring professional advisors was the best use of funds in light of these two issues as well as the need to increase attrition. It is anticipated the ads for these positions will post soon and the searches will be conducted by college. In addition, the EAB advising software package will take an approximate six month roll-out.
5. The issue of chair summer stipends was discussed. The Provost was made aware that several chairs had been notified recently of reduced stipends for summer 2014. He was encouraged to reconsider the method used to determine chair summer pay so the method reflects the work expected and is not entirely associated with SCH generation from prior summers. He indicated he will work on this issue.
6. The Provost indicated he is waiting to hear about tutoring funds for next academic year; funds for tutoring this year were from one time dollars.