October 23, 2019

Deans’ Council

1. Meeting began at 9:03
2. CPoS and minors (Ron Day): New federal aid rules require that all coursework that is paid by federal aid (Pell Grant) is in a degree program or above the 12 hour full-time requirement. KSU has over 15,000 Pell students. This policy has an impact on stand-alone minors, but it is complicated. The impact was limited to about 120 students this semester and “faculty are encouraged to continue developing minors and should rest assured that KSU will provide supports to ensure student success in completing minors”. For specific questions, I recommend that faculty reach out to Ron Day.
3. Minors (Pam Cole): policies associated with minors were discussed and related back to double counting minor credits in elective credits.
4. Space (Ron Matson): We are running out of office space across campus. A draft of policy for assigning office space was shared. Critiques were provided. Ron is taking additional comments. Revisions will happen.
5. Communications with Students (Ron Matson): Students complain they are getting too many emails. Academic Affairs would like ideas on how to streamline communications. Discussion about CRMs and communication app options. The Honors College app was shared as an example. Forward ideas to Ron.
6. Curriculum Updates (Pam Cole): Course proposals need to have the required syllabus components. This is a frequent cause for sending a proposal to the originator. While sending back proposals is frustrating, early fixes are preferable over having to restart a full process. Amy Jones is first level and that does not mean it is perfect. Kris DeRocher is the next AA level and she is looking for other requirements in the proposals. This process is actually working very well. The details of grammar and completeness are being effectively addressed early. Substantive conversations about proposals are now happening in GPCC and UPCC. Related studies and substitutions are creating extra work for multiple stakeholders. Pam will be speaking with the CDA and her office will be offering help to minimize problems.
7. Centers and Institutes (Ron Matson): The process of how Centers and Institutes are established and monitored is being reviewed and changes are expected. A taskforce has been established.
8. Digital Measures (Ron Matson): The contract for DM is up in March. A previous committee recommended a switch to the Interfolio product. However, both DM and Interfolio have made changes since the committee that leave question of whether the decision is still representative. Ron would like feedback. Please email him with your thoughts as soon as possible.
9. Student Success Dashboard Metrics (Michael Rothlisberger): budget deadlines and spending of student success funds were discussed. The 4 metrics themselves have pros and cons. He is interested in conversations about changes or improvements. The four metrics included: DFW, retention (snapshot of enrollment and retested the following year), number of graduates, and number of credit hours per full time faculty.
10. P&T External Review Letters (Shawn Long): Quantity, quality, and conflict of interests of the letters and letter writers are the concerns. We need to remember that external letters are new, but also continue to advance the rules and policies. Chairs may need more training in soliciting letters.
11. Other (Ron Matson & others): Leadership workshops at CETL, Ron is taking more suggestions on leadership capacity building; Ending the 6-week summer semester and calendar changes need to have academic involvement. Ron will share the minutes of the committee that is making these decisions. These decisions are actually not final and still under consideration; HR challenges with market rate staff hiring rules. Updates on Dean searches and schedules.
12. Meeting adjourned at 11:30am

Submitted by Anissa Vega, Department of Instructional Technology

\*Please note this was my interpretation of the presentations and discussions that took place, and may not be the intent of the speaker. For questions and clarification, please reach out to the speaker listed.