



Academic Affairs

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Academic Affairs Leadership Council
February 18, 2020
RTH 456
2:00 – 4:00 pm

2:00 – 2:10 pm Tech Advise Update – Mrs. Lederman

*Mrs. Lederman and Ms. Burke met with each Dean within the past two weeks. Per the handout, two sessions are full and sign-up numbers are up, compared to last year. Dr. Cass asked Mrs. Lederman to share a blurb about Tech Advise so he can send it out to his department heads. Dr. Johnson will ask the Deans to assist with the General Advising and Registration days. **Action: Mrs. Lederman will send out a blurb to all the Deans.***

2:10 – 2:20 pm Classroom Renovations – Dr. Robertson

*Dr. Robertson posed the question of who pays for classroom renovations or upgrades since there is no ownership of classrooms. Mr. Watson provided a handout of the room usage report. Suggested this could be used to identify ownership of rooms. The conversation expanded to allowing the fees for outside group usage to go to the appropriate area; custodial, Witherspoon Auditorium, OIS and so forth. **Action: Dr. Robertson will head a committee to look at the options. Mr. Etzel will participate as well.***

2:20 – 2:30 pm Expanding ARGOS Access – Dr. Robertson

Dr. Robertson has received increased requests for data that is in Argos reports and suggested access be open to all faculty. Mr. Watson stated department heads and deans have the same level of access. One concern would be a faculty being able to access the Grade Frequency Report by Faculty Member, which is most sensitive. As long as others do not have access to faculty evaluations. Mr. Wester will make a request to OIS for security use. One thing to keep in mind, there may be personal reports that have been created and if anyone has read access, they will also have access to that report. Dr. Cezeaux stated a need since

*working on the S-STEM grant. Dr. Johnson would like to see a print out of what exactly faculty have access too. **Action: Mr. Wester will get the list of reports. If there are no issues, then it will be opened up to all faculty for read access.***

2:30 – 2:35 pm

HLC Open Forums

22 people attended the first forum on Friday, February 14. The forums are set up like mock interviews. This Friday, February 21 at 3:00 pm will cover criterion 1. For more information, please visit www.atu.edu/hlc. This website has all drafts available and participants are encourage to read the documents before attending the meeting. The forums are open to the university but specific areas are invited directly based on the criterion or target.

2:35 – 2:45 pm

Women's History Month

Dr. Erin Clair shared a poster for Women's History Month, which begins next Tuesday, February 25. Trombonist will kick off the month's event. Dr. Clair encouraged everyone to attend and be thinking about events for next year. The Lillian Mickel exhibit is open March 4 to May 8. Women of Tech will be highlighted, one per week, via social media. Planning to highlight others within the wed. Women in STEAM in Norman Hall; Women in STEM in McEver for women scientists and mathematicians; Women Education displayed in Hull and Crabaugh; and Women in Behavioral Sciences in Witherspoon Lobby. Diversity and Inclusion will host a kickoff at the Hindsman Bell Tower Tuesday, March 3 from 1:30 – 2:30 pm.

2:45 – 2:55 pm

ReUp Update – Dr. Aulgur/Mr. Mike Bogue

Dr. Aulgur gave an update on the ReUp program. This program specifically targets stop out students and is a third party fee for service provider. The program would look back 25 years and about 26,000 students. ReUp is paid by student performance and they receive a cut of tuition. The projected launch is March 12 but this date may be too soon. The goal is to first put student back in their original degree path and then move to degree completion. Mr. Watson mentioned this is an aggressive timeframe and a lot of work with a large amount of data. The Institutional Research Office we will need to support ReUp moving forward and some requests can't be accommodated. The original file started with 26,000 student but has been cut down to about 20,000 because of collections or those barred from campus. The University of Memphis has seen great success with this program. Dr. Jackson

asked if this company works with employers; no; they are focusing on getting students enrolled and graduated. How are they addressing the reasons students are not coming back? No answer. The university may not be out direct costs but will be out hours; IR and OIS will be impacted. Dropout is defined as not enrolled in a major term i.e. Fall and Spring. This could be a problem and ReUp could go after the recently dropped students and ATU is currently going after those students as well. Dr. Johnson asked Dr. Aulgur and Mr. Watson to please take back the concerns from the AALC to the group working with ReUp.

2:55 – 3:15 pm

Reasons for Student Withdrawal

The handout is by academic year and includes three years' worth of data. Upon withdraw, students take a survey and can select the multiple reasons why they are leaving the university. This data can be used to identify key factors that can be addressed to help students and retain them. Please note, there are some instances that are completely out of the universities control. Please review and the group will discuss at a later date. ESC Retention committee is reviewing this data and would like feedback from the AALC to address some of these issues. Dr. Jenkins suggested the university send a follow-up survey to ask students again why they withdrew, possibly six months later, to see if the student gives the same answers. The students may provide additional information with the follow-up survey. Mr. Etzel asked if the survey uses controlled language and the answer is yes, the answers are in a drop down box or they select a category. Mrs. Weaver mentioned the ESC Retention committee could look at the survey and tweak the response choices.

Dr. Nathaniel Chapman prepared some data for the ESC and Dr. Johnson shared some of his findings. Dr. Johnson mentioned Dr. Chapman could be invited to a future meeting if the group would like. Key findings include students report low usage of tutoring and academic support. The question was asked if these students were transfer students because they may not know these resources are available. Other findings included financial aid and scheduling. Is the university doing a disservice to the student but giving them a schedule that has a 10 am class but not have another at 3 pm? Students only choose one class to attend. Is there a better way to schedule courses?

*Student report difficulties with work and school balance;
procrastinated with time management; recognize homework is*

beneficial but may not take the time to complete. Hosting workshops for student would be beneficial.

One college stood out, being significantly below average in several areas, NHS. This could simply be this college has a more rigorous coursework. The data does not indicate if labs are included.

Dr. Robertson and Dr. Cass volunteered to work on a summer bridge program, dubbed Tech Prep.

3:15 – 3: 25 pm

Strategic Planning Update

Dr. Johnson updated the group. Please make sure we are doing things we said regarding the strategic plan. If you are one of the key individuals or involved in ESC, we need to make sure you are doing what you are supposed to be doing. ESC meeting regularly so we know they are meeting.

3:25 – 3:30 pm

TOFT Representative from Academic Affairs

Dr. Johnson asked for a rep from Academics and Dr. Cass volunteered.

3:30 – 3:40 pm

Recap / Next Steps

3:40 – 3:45 pm

Announcements

- Updated Resumes – HLC – *Please turn in updated resumes with evaluations to Academic Affairs by April 15. Administrators and directors also need to submit an updated resume.*
- Tech4Tech Industry Event
Monday, February 24 @ 10:00am – 1:00pm, Chambers West – *Dr. Cezeaux explained the idea is to bring in industry leaders from across the state and get an idea about things they are anticipating needed in the workforce. 69 representatives from different industries and sectors are registered to attend. This will be a listening session from the Tech perspective. Facilitators and note takers have been invited; if you have others interested please send them to Dr. Cezeaux. A panel discussion will take place and conclude with breakout sessions.*
- Webinar, “Focus on Student Belonging to Boost Student Retention and Success”
Thursday, February 27 @12:00pm– 1:00 pm, RCB 355
- Friday, April 24, Every Student Counts Conference. *There will be 27 sessions. There is a \$30 registration fee. Action:*

Andrea send out sessions to AALC. More information to follow.

3:50 pm

Adjournment!