

Academic Structure & Faculty Committee
Strategic Planning Committee
Tuesday, September 15, 2015
Minutes

The Academic Structure & Faculty Committee met on Tuesday, September 15, 2015, in RPL 326. Members present: Jon Clements, Patricia Edmunds, John Freeman, Eric Lovely, and Lesley Snider, Lucas Maxwell, and V. Carole Smith.

Items discussed:

1. **Lesley Snider** (Ozark representative) advised that the faculty/staff of Ozark campus support shared governance.
2. **Pat Edmunds, Director Arkansas Tech University Career Center** – Arkansas Tech Career Center located behind Russellville High School – Pat distributed a PowerPoint presentation and walked through the printouts providing additional details and was open to all questions.
 - a. Center began in 1972 and they are currently 4th largest program in the state.
 - b. Merged with Arkansas Tech University in July, 2011.
 - c. Satellites – Paris and Clarksville High Schools are two new satellites.
 - d. Before a new program can be added, the state rules mandate that an old program must first end.
 - i. Ozark High School is the next planned satellite.
 - e. Of the 11 schools previously served, has now grown to 16 schools being served without additional funding.
 - f. Certificates of Proficiency – students can earn these while still in high school; they can then enroll in the Ozark campus, and some tend to drop out before they finish the 2-year degree because they are offered high paying positions in industry.
 - g. Stackable degrees – The Career Center courses are accepted at Ozark. Currently looking at stackable degrees from certificates of proficiency through Master degree at Russellville campus.
 - h. Textbooks – Ozark campus selects books that will be used at the Career Center.
 - i. Communication – always can be improved and it should be much better for incoming freshmen. Pat and faculty stress communication to students.
 - j. Drafting – not currently available at the Career Center and students are receiving service through STEM Center at Russellville High School.
 - k. Cosmetology – current contract with Arkansas Beauty College in Russellville; discussion concerning what students are being taught and if they are being taught/exposed/trained in hair for a diversified clientele.
 - l. Certificates – currently 87% pass rate
 - m. Funding – currently 1.4 – 1.6 million per year with no support from Arkansas Tech Russellville campus; no funding for facilities maintenance/upgrades/additional facilities.

3. Dr. Anglin Interim Vice President, Academic Affairs, Russellville

- a. Overloads – not enough faculty to teach without offering overloads; some faculty depend upon overloads for additional salary
- b. Additional Faculty – Dr. Bowen estimates that 50 additional faculty need to be hired to serve current student body; this could occur if receive additional \$6 million in funding.
- c. Associate Deans – one for College of Business, one for Engineering (new Dean will look at configuration in Engineering because current Associate Dean is also department chair for Electrical Engineering.
 - i. Two new associate deans:
 1. Dr. Mary Gunter Dean of 2 colleges; will likely change in the future
 2. Dr. Gunter has excellent contacts that are an asset to Arkansas Tech.
- d. Change – ultimately changes come from departments; documentation needed for new Vice President of Academic Affairs when he/she assume position
- e. Academic Structure – going forward collection of colleges that have been placed together and will remain for a minimum of 2-3 years before stabilize to see if the model that ATU wants to continue to support; Dr. Bowen is supportive of current division of colleges.
- f. Communication – Dr. Anglin would like more communication with faculty upward to his office.
- g. Diversity – should be a University initiative and be campus-wide, not just discussed as “Dr. Bowen’s initiative.”
 - i. Dr. Marteze Hammonds is the new Associate Dean for Diversity & Inclusion. He is under Student Services instead of being considered a faculty member. This position needs more ‘clout.’ He is willing to support faculty but his positioning under Student Services doesn’t (V. Carole Smith).
- h. College structure – foreseeable future this is set but Dr. Anglin stressed that Dr. Bowen is the best president he has ever had opportunity to work for. She is not static and is consistent. I changes need to happen, look for them to happen.
- i. Policies and procedures – handbook needs to be rewritten.
- j. Vice President of Academic Affairs
 - i. needs to address redundancy
 - ii. example of policy that needs to be changed is that the VP’s office has to approve assignment of room keys; that is ludicrous
 - iii. Dr. Anglin will prepare a list of current policies that are under the purview of the VP.
 - iv. Policies and procedures need to be stream-lined.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Johnette Moody