Deans’ Council

Minutes: Tuesday, May 10, 2011

1:00 – 2:30 pm
President’s Conference Room
Montana Hall

Martha Potvin  Jeff Jacobsen  Helen Melland
Susan Agre-Kippenhan  Marvin Lansverk  Tamara Miller
Larry Baker  Paula Lutz  Dan Moshavi
Carl Fox  Robert Marley  Allen Yarnell
Robert Hietala  Tom McCoy

I. Call to order
Provost Potvin called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

II. Approval of Minutes of April 12, 2011, Meeting
Minutes unanimously approved as written.

III. Information/Announcements
Allen Yarnell: Matthew Caires has been selected as the Dean of Students. He is from the University of Wyoming.

Marvin Lansverk: The Honorary Degree Policy has been revised and posted on the policy website. University Council reviewed the policy at its May 4, 2011, meeting

IV. Topics for Discussion:

A. Single Section Courses for Athletes
Peter Fields presented handouts and discussed the difficulties for student athletes when taking single section courses. MSU must comply with NCAA requirements regarding percentage of degree completion and progress toward graduation. The goal is to assist student athletes in graduating in a timely manner. Following discussion, it was agreed that Fields and members of his staff would arrange individual meetings with Deans and/or Assistant Deans of the colleges to work out scheduling difficulties. Compromises from all parties may be necessary.

B. F&A Accumulation in Accounts
Tom McCoy explained the concern regarding balances in F&A accounts which carry forward from year to year in Dean, Department Head and PI accounts. Some PI accounts and also
start-up accounts remain unused for extended periods. Discussion followed regarding the need to establish a policy requiring a specified percentage of expenditure in accounts over a period of time. The possibility of establishing maximum allowable accumulation in individual accounts was also considered. Individual account “owners” could be required to identify plans for the use of accumulated funds. This issue will be discussed at Research Council. Faculty Senate Chair Lansverk indicated that Faculty Senate would like an opportunity to review any new proposed policies regarding F&A accumulations. The Deans will bring this issue to the attention of Department Heads.

C. Resource Allocation Update
Terry Leist reviewed revisions to the Budget Reallocation Model as recommended by the Deans subcommittee:
- Intent should be to fund growth
- Peer benchmarking will be incorporated to work toward parity by college
- Student FTE increase and peer benchmarking will each count 50% for allocating funds
- Recognition that the model is not perfect and only provides funding for 50% of Delaware Cost (marginal cost estimate)
- Assuming adequate funding and revenue, the plan for FY12 would be to provide 1.2 million in base funding and $600,000 in OTO funding. The Provost will approve final allocations.

Updated Delaware benchmark data will be used. Allocations to units will be made after the May Board of Regents meeting.

Motion made to accept model as outlined. Motion seconded to accept in principle the five step process. Vote was unanimous in favor.

D. Unfunded Programs
The Provost would like to develop a process for considering new programs for funding. This process might include a yearly call for proposals to prevent ad hoc submissions and decisions. This process should be in tandem with the reallocation model. The development of an academic plan will be key to the success of this process.

E. Undergraduate Campus Certificates
Jeff Adams presented a proposal from the College of Engineering to create an International Engineering Certificate. The requirements are broad-based (although recipients must earn a Baccalaureate degree from the College of Engineering) and offer maximum flexibility for students. Given the interest in international programs across the university, discussion followed regarding the possibility of creating a “generic” international certificate under which discipline specific programs could be developed. A motion was made and seconded to seek approval for an “International Certificate” which would be the umbrella program for other international certificates within departments and colleges. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 19, 1:30 – 3:00 pm (President’s Conference Room)