Deans’ Council

Minutes: Monday, January 9, 2012

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

Martha Potvin            Jeff Jacobsen            Helen Melland
Joseph Fedock            Marvin Lansverk         Tamara Miller
Larry Baker              Paula Lutz              Susan Dana
Carl Fox                 Robert Marley           Matthew Caires
Robert Hietala           Tom McCoy

I. Call to order

II. Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2011, Meeting
Minutes unanimously approved as written.

III. Information/Announcements

A. Introduction of Dennis Defa – Terry Leist
   Dennis Defa will be contacting Deans individually to schedule a one on one discussion.

B. Revenue and Expenditures: 5 Year Trend – Terry Leist
   Revenues have increased approximately 25 million over the past five years. Most of the increased funds have been utilized for salaries and benefits.

C. Interdisciplinary Research – Tom McCoy
   Vice President McCoy asked Deans’ Council members to review the document “Research Council Recommendations Regarding Interdisciplinary Research”. This document outlines a mechanism to reward interdisciplinary efforts.

D. Search Updates
   - College of Business Dean – Robert Marley
     Fifty-two applications received and eleven semi-finalists identified for preliminary interviews (January 22-23). On-campus interviews for finalists are planned for the last two weeks of February.
   - College of Arts and Architecture Dean – Carl Fox
     Semi-finalist interviews will be held February 1 and 2. On-campus interviews for finalists are planned for the last two weeks of February.
   - WWAMI Director – Paula Lutz
     Two finalists have been identified for on-campus interviews the end of January/first of February.
IV. Topics for Discussion:

A. Review of Investment Proposals

The Provost requested input from Deans’ Council for its highest priorities for investment proposals for Academic Affairs. It was noted that a funding proposal for the DEAL program had not been submitted. Paula Lutz indicated she would be submitting a proposal immediately.

A Deans’ Council sub-group had previously recommended unfunded programs as the highest priority for Academic Affairs. Approximately $683,000 would be required to fund the three unfunded proposals (Bioengineering, Sustainable Foods and Bioenergy Systems and Music Technology.

Vice President Leist stated he anticipated receiving approximately 80 proposals from across campus. All proposals will move forward regardless of recommendations/ranking by previous reviewing entities. The Budget Council will prioritize these proposals for the President’s consideration. Discussion followed regarding the implications of base funding vs. one-time-only funding. It was recommended that a pool of on-going funding for diversity and spousal hires be established.

Of 46 proposals received, 24 received a “very high” recommendation from the Dean for funding. Following discussion it was agreed to give the three unfunded proposals the highest priority for funding. From the remaining 23 proposals, each Deans’ Council member identified his/her top 5 proposals. Provost Potvin will consider the Deans’ Council input in establishing her recommendations on Academic Affairs investment proposals.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 1:30 – 3:00 pm (President’s Conference Room)