

Council of Academic Deans Meeting  
August 23, 2022

Summary and Action Items

1. **Common Experience Update** – Dr. Erika Nielson provided the Council with a Common Experience Update that included a reminder of what the Common Experience is, this year’s theme of Systems Thinking, the selection committee, and past themes, major speakers, and common readings. Discussion was held amongst the group.

2. **New degree programs to consider for 2023-2029 Strategic Planning Cycle** – Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman provided additional information regarding the purpose of the feasibility templates referencing both the initial CAD discussions, the subsequent workshops, and the information in the slides from the workshops. It appears that some were under the misimpression that a decision would be made centrally as to whether programs will move forward. Dr. Sriraman reinforced that the decision was to be made at the department level, then at the college level, and that the Provost will then prioritize programs for Academic Affairs. There was some discussion from the deans regarding the workload of preparing the document. Input was also offered that work now undertaken would prove beneficial at the proposal writing stage. It was reiterated that these feasibility studies will be essential in the upcoming college strategic planning process for prioritizing new degree proposals within each college plan. There was a brief discussion regarding the list of programs presented as programs in demand in Texas. This list is nonbinding and only serves as a resource.

3. **AAUP Summer Institute (University of Nevada at Reno) Fellowship Report** – Dr. Lynn Ledbetter provided the Council with a brief update on her fellowship visit to the AAUP Summer Institute.

4. **Undergraduate Admissions Report** – Mr. Gary Ray provided the Council with an undergraduate admissions report. We are 16 days to the fall census day of September 7. As of this meeting, total enrollment is 38,229 and total number of semester credit hours is 469,246. Undergraduate enrollment is up 2% and undergraduate semester credit hours is up 3.5%.

After completing all 19 NSO sessions, the freshmen NSO melt rate is 10%.

	Degrees	Certificates	Degrees Added after Conferral Date	Total Degrees with Late Adds	Total incl. Certificates	Applications on Conferral Date
Summer 2022	1,323	22	14	1,337	1,359	1,544
Summer 2021	1,475	20	102	1,557	1,577	NR

First payment due date was August 18. We dropped 1,102 student schedules for nonpayment on August 19. We extended 309 students. The total confirmed after the drop was 37,134. In 2021, we dropped 772 student schedules for nonpayment, extended 350 student schedules making the total confirmed after the drop 36,896. The confirmed headcount after the first drop is up 238 Y2Y.

The second drop for nonpayment is scheduled for August 30, 2022. We dropped 138 and extended 38 in 2021. The confirmed 2021 headcount post second drop was 37,988.

2021 Freshmen 1-year retention tracking (as of August 22)  
2021 79.9% or 4,949 - 926 not registered

2021 Transfer 1-year retention (as of August 22)  
2021 84% or 1,937 – 302 not registered

Mr. Ray mentioned that since June 2020, we have enrolled 560 students under the Bring Bobcats Back program; 138 students have graduated; 276 are enrolled for fall 2022.

Mr. Ray thanked the deans and the departments/schools for all of the classroom adjustments made to accommodate the freshman class.

3. **Graduate Admissions Report** – Dr. Eric Paulson provided the Council with a graduate admissions report. He announced that we are up in overall applications and acceptances, although the numbers are unevenly distributed among programs. He mentioned that 60 students have been dropped over the weekend for nonpayment.

He announced that The Graduate College has Project Reenroll where The Graduate College communicates to students the importance of completing their degree and offers assistance on reenrolling.

#### **OFF AGENDA**

Dr. Cynthia Hernandez expressed her appreciation to all the deans for their college open houses and mentioned that they received a lot of positive feedback from students. She mentioned that the deans will be sent the scan in codes from their event so their colleges can follow-up with interested students.