

Council of Academic Deans Meeting
March 22, 2022

Summary and Action Items

1. **Week of Welcome (Formerly Bobcat Preview)** – Dr. Mary Ellen Cavitt shared a recommendation from the Week of Welcome Scheduling Subcommittee that each college host an Open House on the afternoon of Wednesday, August 17, 2022. She also announced that rather than hosting New Student Convocation, there will be a kick-off event held at Bobcat Stadium the evening of August 17, 2022. Planning is underway and details will follow on creating a week that welcomes new students, creates belonging, and engages them in a scholarly community.
2. **Feasibility Analysis for New Doctoral Programs** – Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman and Dr. Andrea Golato shared information regarding upcoming workshops to assist units in conducting a preliminary feasibility analysis of degree program concepts for potential consideration in the next strategic planning process. The workshops will feature an emphasis on doctoral programs. However, units considering masters and baccalaureate programs may also find the material presented in the workshops useful for planning purposes. Dr. Sriraman will follow-up with an email to CAD regarding the details of the workshops.
3. **Strategic Planning – Preliminary Development** – Dr. Beth Wuest provided the Council with a preliminary update on the development of the 2023-2029 University Plan and distributed the results from the survey on mission, values, and goals. The mission review committee led by Dr. Michael O'Malley is assessing the survey results for contributions and updates to the university's mission and values statements.
4. **Role of Chairs/Directors and Associate or Assistant Chairs/Directors** – Dr. Bourgeois and Dr. Debbie Thorne had discussion with the deans regarding the role of chairs/directors and associate and assistant chairs/directors. They distributed a copy of AA/PPS 01.02.11, Role, Evaluation, and Step-Down Salaries of Department Chairs and School Directors. Chairs/directors are responsible for making and approving many decisions, including personnel action items, workload assignments, class scheduling, and budget priorities and expenditures. Associate and assistant chairs/directors assist with administrative workload in academic units, provide development opportunities for faculty, and ensure cross-training and succession planning.
5. **Undergraduate Admissions Report** – Mr. Gary Ray provided the Council with an undergraduate admissions report. He provided the following updates:
 - To date, we have awarded 971 transfer merit scholarships for fall 2022 in an effort to improve transfer student enrollments.
 - We have awarded \$1,125,600 in Reskilling Round 2 grants to date, including 177 new spring 2022 awards and 14 renewals from fall 2021. We have an additional \$1.5 million in Reskilling Round 3 to award in summer 2022 and fall 2022. Since spring 2021, the university has made awards to 638 students from these grants.

- As of today, 1,717 students have registered for April 9, 2022 Bobcat Day; we had 1,382 registered students to attend in April 2019
- 2022 Spring Break campus tour numbers: 464 prospects or 1,203 total people vs. 418 or 1,110 total people in 2021
- We have 4,512 freshman class housing contracts, which is an increase of 527 or 13.2%; last year at this time we had 3,985 housing contracts
- New Student Orientation is hard to compare since 2022 registration started two weeks later than 2021 registration, although numbers are strong:
 - using the same number of registration weeks FTIC (3 weeks) 2,417 vs. 1,672
 - transfers (3 weeks) 563 vs. 447
 - as of today, 2,734 students are registered for NSO
- As of March 21, 2022, we have awarded 8,908 freshman merit awards for fall 2022; the total number of accepted scholarships from 2022 versus 2021 is +991; the deadline for students to accept their awards is May 1, 2022.

6. Graduate Admissions Report – Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with a graduate admissions report. She announced there are a number of incomplete applications and recommended that graduate advisors reach out to remind students to complete applications. She also indicated all merit fellowship awards have been awarded; out of approximately 100 graduate programs, 32 programs nominated students for these awards.

4. COVID-19 Updates – Dr. Bourgeois announced that Dr. Emilio Carranco will be sending more communications to campus regarding COVID-19 guidelines and individuals being comfortable continuing to wear a mask or not regardless of CDC guidelines. Dr. Bourgeois asked the deans to relay a message to their academic units regarding removing markers/signage regarding social distancing protocols.

OFF AGENDA

Dr. Sriraman announced the Office of International Student and Scholar Services is currently experiencing staff vacancies/shortages, which may affect services, processes, and timelines.

Dr. Bourgeois indicated that the next University President is expected to be announced soon.