

Council of Academic Deans Meeting  
April 19, 2022

Summary and Action Items

1. **Council on Funded Research** – Dr. Aimee Roundtree presented an update on the Council on Funded Research’s work, including the task force developing the background brief on “Expanding Discovery, Innovation, Creativity and Research” for the strategic planning process, meetings with research coordinators, potential opportunities with the Department of Education’s GAANN (Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need) grants, and ways of enhancing the university’s research community.

2. **Commencement Participant Policy** – Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman and Dr. Valarie Fleming presented a policy update to the current commencement participant policy; this update would permanently eliminate students participating in commencement if they lack any degree requirements, regardless of number of hours or requirements. A major factor in the decision is student success, as preliminary reports indicate 24% of students who were allowed to participate early in a commencement ceremony never completed their requirements to officially graduate. CAD approved this new policy, effective after May 2022 graduation.

3. **Undergraduate Admissions Report** – Mr. Gary Ray provided the Council with an undergraduate admissions report. He provided the following updates:

A new fall application record was recorded on Friday, April 15, 2022. The old record was 32,686 and as of today, April 19, 2022, the university has received 32,783 applications (+97 or 0.2%). There is also a new admission record as of today, with 23,899 admits versus 21,672 admits (2021), which is a 10% increase.

Mr. Ray reported 4,980 students attended Bobcat Days in 2021-2022 (FY22).

New Student Orientation (from Monday’s Undergraduate Admissions Report)

- FTIC 4,494 vs. 4,112; increase of 382 or 9.3% over 2021 (today’s NSO count is 4,742)
- Transfers 976 vs. 754; increase of 222 or 29% over 2021 (today’s NSO count is 1,036)
- Students from 33 states have registered for Freshman NSO, with students from Houston and Austin leading the way

Mr. Ray announced that there are 5,691 freshmen housing contracts; an increase of 883 or 18%.

Mr. Ray announced that three new general articulation agreements are in progress with Coastal Bend Community College, Harmony Public Schools (via The Texas State University System), and Dallas Community College.

Fall Merit Awards (as of April 18, 2022):

May 1 is the deadline for students to accept a merit award. The university has extended 9,052 freshman merit offers for fall 2022; as of April 19, 2021, 5,641 merit awards had been offered. The overall scholarship acceptance rate is 2.6% higher than the previous year (28.6% vs. 26%), and the total number of accepted scholarships in 2022 versus 2021 is +967 (2,784 vs. 1,817).

Summer 2022 Applications and Acceptances:

- Applications and acceptances of first-year students are up
- Applications from transfer students are down, but acceptances are up

2022 Freshman Class:

- Top 10% admits 3,710; up 590 to date (18%)
- Top 25% admitted 11,288; up 1,788 to date (18%)

4. **Graduate Admissions Report** – Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with a graduate admissions report. For the fall 2022 semester, international student applications have increased 100% and we are still receiving applications. For fall 2022, the College of Science and Engineering has received a record number of 1,011 master's applications. She mentioned that the School of Social Work has 112 students that will be admitted to their program this week. Because of the current job market and low unemployment, applications for master's programs for both summer and fall 2022 are down.

## **OFF AGENDA**

Dr. Bourgeois announced that the Curative COVID-19 testing site will be available on the San Marcos Campus through December 2022 and Bobcat Trace efforts are fading due to the improved COVID-19 situation.