

Council of Academic Deans
September 2, 2014

Summary and Action Items

- **Common Experience Update:** Dr. Heather Galloway and Dr. Ron Brown provided the Council with an update to this year's Common Experience. A handout was distributed outlining the goals for this year as well as list (to be expanded) of scheduled events. Also distributed was a list of the fall 2014 mini grant awards.
- **Outcomes Assessment:** Dr. Beth Wuest discussed the process of student learning and general education outcomes assessment including the timeline, importance of continuous improvement, and new developments for the 2014-2015 cycle.
- **High Quality Faculty/NRU Standard:** Dr. Cynthia Opheim reviewed the National Research University Fund Eligibility requirement regarding High-Quality Faculty. Deans were asked to consider inclusion of strategies in their strategic plans to address these requirements.
- **Undergraduate Admissions Report:** Dr. Heintze provided the Council with the undergraduate admissions report.
- **Graduate Admissions Report:** Dr. Andrea Golato provided the Council with the graduate admissions report.

Off Agenda

- **M&O Advisory Group Recommendations:** Dr. Opheim described the recommendations of the M&O Advisory Group regarding the M&O distributions through the formula. Slight modifications to the formula were recommended. Allocation of M&O through the formula will involve some redistribution of funds this year. Deans were asked to forward recommendations for departments/schools that have a need for permanent supplemental funding.
- **Update on GRA/New Position Issue:** Dr. Golato provided the Council with an update on the Graduate Research Assistantships. As mentioned before, the term can only be used for graduate student assistants who are conducting research under the supervision of a faculty member. Students providing programmatic or administrative support will have to be reclassified. President Trauth prefers a generic term such as graduate assistant for these positions. Depending on the nature of their duties, students hired in these positions will either hold exempt or non-exempt status. Mr. Bill Nance has learned from legal council that students hired in such positions will be able to retain their out-of-state tuition waiver. Dr. Golato will be working with HR on a revision of the university's policy on graduate assistantships.