Council of Academic Deans  
August 26, 2014

Summary and Action Items

• **PPS 1.10 – Role, Evaluation, and Step-Down Salaries of Department Chairs and School Directors**: Dr. Cynthia Opheim, along with Ms. Michel Conroy presented proposed changes to the summative evaluation of chairs process outlined in PPS 1.10. The proposed change would create a position for an “external observer,” that is, a faculty senator (or other experienced faculty member with broad knowledge of university policies and procedures) available to receive comments in confidence. Discussion resulted in some revisions to these changes. PPS 1.10 will be circulated for further review. Changes, if implemented, will take effect in fall 2015.

• **Meeting with Tenure and Promotion Candidates**: Discussion addressed clarification of provisions in PPS 8.10. Proposed changes would clarify the process of meeting and/or commenting on candidates denied tenure, promotion, or reappointment. The pen-and-ink changes to PPS 8.10 will be circulated for further review.

• **Faculty Development, Assessment and Best Practices Checklist for Online Courses and Programs**: Dr. Debbie Thorne emphasized that faculty who teach distance education courses are required to fulfill professional development/training requirements and complete a Best Practices Checklist per course in order to meet national best practices and standards promulgated by SACS and THECB.

• **How America Pays for College 2014**: Dr. Michael Heintze distributed a document that shows how families paid for college in 2014.

• **Undergraduate Admissions Report**: Dr. Heintze provided the Council with the undergraduate admissions report.

• **Graduate Admissions Report**: Dr. Eric Paulson provided the Council with the graduate admissions report.

Off Agenda

• Dr. Bourgeois distributed a handout outlining how many students have graduated or remain enrolled six years after enrolling.