

Deans Council
January 12, 2021
Minutes

The Deans Council met on Tuesday, January 12 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. via Zoom. Those present were Austin Agho (Chair), Tammi Dice, Gail Dodge, Stuart Frazer, Kate Hawkins, David Metzger, Brian Payne, Kent Sandstrom, Ben Stuart, Jeff Tanner, Bonnie Van Lunen, and Robert Wojtowicz. Jane Dané attended as a guest. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The December 8 minutes were approved.
2. Enrollments for Spring, Summer and Fall 2021

Jane Dané provided information on enrollments for spring, summer and fall 2021.

- For spring 2021, total enrollment is up 1.5% in headcount and down 0.3% in FTE. A breakdown of spring enrollment by college can be found in the documents provided by Ms. Dané.
- While it is still early, total enrollment is down 23% in headcount and down 21.5% in FTE for summer 2021. A media push is planned by March. The guidance for summer is to offer mostly online instruction.
- For fall 2021, freshman and transfer applications are down, and graduate applications are up. The guidance for fall is to plan for more face-to-face course offerings. Ms. Dané asked the Deans to communicate the guidance to chairs and faculty. She noted that the University is planning for students in residence halls in the fall.

3. Possible Development of a Report/Dashboard to Allow Chairs to Quickly Scan the Key Numbers from the Student Opinion Surveys Soon After Each Semester for Each Section of Each Course

Gail Dodge presented an example of a report that could be generated to help department chairs gather information from the Student Opinion Surveys. Several members noted the Faculty Senate's concern that such a report could be used to compare faculty. After discussion, the group agreed to ask ITS to generate the report by course with the following information: instructor, course, format, enrollment, responses, and the overall instructor rating. Austin Agho asked the Deans to remind department chairs not to use the report to compare faculty.

4. Discussion of Classes that Will Need to Return to Face-to-Face Instruction on February 1 or 8 if the Rest of Campus is Delayed in Returning to Face-to-Face

Gail Dodge asked how to handle classes that will need to return to face-to-face instruction if the date for online only classes is extended. The following issues were raised.

- Can some students be allowed to return to campus earlier?

- Will residence halls be open for students who need on-campus housing?
- Can the students be tested?

The Deans were asked to generate a list of essential courses that will need to be offered face-to-face. The list will be shared with SEES, and they will cross reference the students in these courses with those needing campus housing. Bonnie Van Lunen added that students in face-to-face classes will be required to be tested weekly. Also, residence halls will be open for these students.

5. COVID Testing for ODURF Employees

Gail Dodge asked why ODURF employees are not included in on-campus testing for COVID-19. Bonnie Van Lunen stated that this might be possible, but ODURF would need to adopt NowCare as their occupational health care provider.

6. Announcements

- A. Austin Agho will meet with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. One of the items for discussion is reimbursement for faculty teaching remotely. He asked the Deans for information on any requests they have received for reimbursement. The Deans reported they have received a handful of requests. Dr. Agho will let the Executive Committee know that requests from faculty for reimbursement should be directed to the department chair and will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
- B. Austin Agho noted that he has interviewed four candidates for Interim Dean in Arts and Letters and plans to make the selection by the end of the week.