

Gordon Ford College of Business
Leadership Team Meeting
GH 443
Thursday, October 28, 2021
9:00 am

Members present: Drs. Ray Blankenship, Indu Chhachhi, Lukas Forbes, Alex Lebedinsky, Whitney Peake, Mark Ross, Evelyn Thrasher, and Chris Shook, presiding.

Dr. Shook asked for approval of the minutes from the October 14, 2021 meeting. Dr. Ray Blankenship made a motion to approve the minutes, and Dr. Alex Lebedinsky seconded. The minutes were approved with no change.

Dr. Lebedinsky shared an Economics student received an internship at Humana. Historically, Economics students that participate in internships at Humana are hired for full time positions upon graduation. He also mentioned faculty coming to him with concerns about a recent article published in the College Heights Herald regarding staff raises. He also explained to the leadership team that he will be visiting local high school AP students, presenting on the Economic Department's offerings.

Dr. Forbes said that, for the first time, all nine corporate supporters are renewing their sponsorship for the sales program in the Marketing Department.

Dr. Peake spoke of the Management Department hosting their first Wednesday Workshop. There were several presentations, including new faculty members. The event brought a terrific energy to the department.

Dr. Thrasher thanked the department chairs for the assistance with the recent FBLA high school students' visit. Several schools have reported back, saying the scavenger hunt was the highlight of their visit. The South Warren FBLA advisor sent Dr. Thrasher an email this morning, asking if she could bring their FBLA chapter, 40 students, to 'experience GFCB'.

Dr. Blankenship mentioned the DEI committee will be meeting with Dr. Michelle Elkins, Director of the Kelly autism Program on December 9 at 1:00 pm to discuss neuro-diversity. He also shared that former student, Ms. Abby McGraw, is heading up data analytics at Abound Credit Union. She will be hiring some of our students for internships soon.

Dr. Shook thanked Ms. Wendi Kelley for her help with the recent GFCB event held at Chaney's Dairy Barn. It was well attended. He also explained the college has a record number of students having majors in GFCB this year. Our faculty and staff are doing a good job of keeping our majors relevant.

Dr. Shook provided a few brief CAD and general updates:

- There will be a CAD retreat on November 2. They hope to finalize the 2023 budget.
- Several policies went through the approval process.

- Department chairs are asked to inform Dr. Rob Hale if they ever get an email and SACSCOC is copied on the message.

The positions left vacant because of VSIP is the property of the Provost. They are filling positions by: quarter of funds – on emergency basis, quarter of funds – unplanned emergency basis, half of funds for departments showing growth according to the RAMP Model. Dr. Shook gave a overview of what positions will be returning to GFCB. Future conversations will likely be had to discuss staffing moving forward.

GFCB is hosting our next Business Advisory Council Meeting on Friday, November 12, at 10:30 am in GH 235. The department chairs are encouraged to attend. We have several new faces. The department chairs will be sent a list of the new council members. During the meeting, we will be discussing our strategic plan, core curriculum, and participating in a risk assessment. The dean suggested each department reactivate their departmental advisory council.

It was discussed during the summer retreat that our college would be looking in to hiring an Associate Dean. This person will be over all the graduate programs, outreach, employee internships, etc. We have received permission to move forward with filling this role. A search will begin soon.

Dr. Thrasher explained the background of MATH 105, 116 and 123 as they relate to GFCB students. Beginning next fall, 123C will be offered for students with lower ACT or who struggle with math (123 will still be offered). It will meet an extra day per week and the pace in which the material is covered will be adjusted. Ms. Robin Ayers would like to meet with the department chairs to provide updates and get their input on things, such as textbook review. Students taking 123C are encouraged to take the one-hour freshman course at the same time. Ms. Monica Duvall and Ms. Ayers are working together to ensure GFCB students are able to take the appropriate MATH courses.

Program revision updates by department include:

- Finance – there will be three revised courses and three new courses. The program revision is about 80% ready
- Accounting – They are reviewing the order of the courses. The core classes will be updated. They are meeting and have had some discussion, but plans are not finalized yet.
- Economics – They are reviewing the order of the courses. They are having conversations and will have a department meeting to decide on a final version.
- Information Systems – Course changes are done and they will review program changes next.
- Management – They have added Supply Chain, and MGMT 261 and MGMT 399 courses will be added. They are also looking at where they need to plug in other courses.
- Marketing – They have begun work on their program revision, but have not formalized anything yet.

The deadline for program changes to be submitted to Dr. Thrasher is February 1, it would be best to have all the changes completed by the time we leave for winter break. If a course can be

revised, it should be revised as opposed to presenting it as a brand new course to ensure all WKU systems pick up any necessary equivalencies with the old course.

The GFCB Curriculum Committee met to review the core curriculum changes and the process used to arrive at the revised core. We have several new curriculum committee members, so department chairs were asked to meet with their curriculum committee representatives to ensure they have support and understand the curriculum process. It would also be helpful if department chairs attend the curriculum meetings when they have curriculum proposals being considered.

During the recent senate meeting, they asked for someone to volunteer to serve on the search committee for the new Admissions director. Dr. Kirk Atkinson agreed to serve on the committee.

The leadership team was asked if they have anything that could be automated (overrides, restrictions, pre-requisites and co-requisites, etc.) to please send them to Dr. Thrasher. She will follow up with Ms. Jennifer Hammonds to automate as much as possible (such as 499 courses being offered during the last semester). Courseleaf can code the options and accomplish things automatically.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 9:00 am, in the Dean's Conference Room, GH 443.