

Gordon Ford College of Business

Leadership Team Meeting

GH 443

Thursday, October 14, 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 September 30, 2021 meeting. Dr. Ray Blankenship made a motion to approve the minutes, and Dr. Whitney Peake seconded. The minutes were approved with no change.

Yesterday was GFCB's turn to be highlighted by WKU's Alumni Association with a social media push to celebrate Homecoming. Ms. Liz Fogle presented our college well with lots of posts on our social media channels.

Regional FBLA students and faculty advisors are going to be in Grise Hall tomorrow. The students will also be participating in a scavenger hunt from 9:45 to 10:30. Also tomorrow, there will be regional guidance counselors attending an informational breakfast in Grise Hall.

Dr. Shook provided a few brief CAD updates:

- There was discussion of Colonnade requirements and projecting course needs. One concern is that there are too many credits required in Colonnade.
- Academic program review was also talked about. Dr. Peake is helping with that project and she explained the process to the department chairs. The chairs will have access to their department's data soon.
- The VSIP program is a work in progress. The Provost has released some of the positions allowing them to move forward with hiring a replacement.
- A Calendar Committee has been created to review the academic calendar. There was pushback of having commencement on the same day as Derby Day.
- The Major/Minor fair was mentioned. Dr. Shook suggested next year our college could set up one table with information from each department. GFCB Ambassadors could represent the college at the table.
- Dr. Koodali sent an email to the deans about revising RCAP. He asked for feedback about reducing the maximum award
- The President sent out an email yesterday about the number of vacation hours that are eligible to roll over from one fiscal year to the next increase from 150 hours to 325 hours. He went on to say that a 1.5% salary increase will be distributed across the board. A .5% pool has been reserved to address salary inversion and compression.

This semester, registration holds have been put on students' account if they have a \$1,000 balance on their account, reduced from last year's \$10,000 amount. This will affect enrollment. Dean Shook asked the Leadership Team their thoughts on the best approach to address the situation. Some options were given, and discussed.

We are beginning to gain traction on a new building for the business college. President Caboni has reportedly asked for \$75 million from the legislature to go towards the building. Dr. Shook is on the committee that will be hiring the architects that will oversee the project. He will reach out to faculty and staff for their participation when the design process starts. It is projected that the new building will be in the same space Tate Page Hall was located.

Dr. Thrasher shared some concerns that have been brought to her about MATH 123. The course was intended to become the math course for all business students. Some business students (dual credit, transfer students, etc.) are not required to take MATH 123. Dr. Thrasher is going to follow up with Ms. Robin Ayers to get her input as to what is working for the students, and what is not. She has also reached out to Tuesdi Helbig to look at the data between MATH 116 and MATH 123 course. The math department does not have tutors for this course, so the GFCB Tutor Center is going to hire our own tutor. Dr. Thrasher asked the department chairs to let her know if they are aware of someone willing to tutor for MATH 123.

Ongoing confusion regarding the utility of the Aim High list as a measure of journal quality was noted. Concern was noted that the Aim High list is not an accurate list of quality journals and should not be used for continuance, promotion, or annual evaluations. Further, a benchmark for quality journals is needed for accreditation purposes. The Dean's office agreed to make a statement about the proper use of the Aim High journal list and task the research committee with determining quality assessment of journals.

Dr. Thrasher explained a conversation that was held at a recent curriculum committee meeting to the department chairs. She has agreed to send the documents that contained the details about the proposal and supporting documents to the committee, and then talk through how the task force came to their recommendations. She will send it out today and will likely meet with them next week. They will then begin approving courses. Dr. Shook shared that he fully supports Dr. Thrasher and is proud of her and the process she has developed.

GFCB is hosting a family social at Chaney's Dairy Barn on Wednesday, October 27, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. This event is in place of the social that was cancelled in August.

The performance evaluations will be due to the dean on November 19 instead of November 1.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 9:00 am, in the Dean's Conference Room, GH 443.