

## **DEANS COUNCIL MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008**

**1:00 – 3:00 P.M.**

**President's Conference Room**

Members Present: Abraham, Chordas, Davis (Guest), DiPillo, Edwards, Furnish, Kasvinsky, Kasuganti, Kobulnicky, Khawaja, Singler, Ward, Yemma

### **1. Announcements**

- (Edwards) Over the next 4 days (4-17 to 4-20-08) the Performing Arts Series will present 2 one-act operas at the Ford Theater. Dean Edwards said that one would be surprised at how very entertaining and fun the operas are to watch!
- (Kobulnicky) Mr. Kobulnicky urged the deans to encourage faculty to take advantage of the growing movement of offering open textbooks in the public domain. This movement is being encouraged by OhioLINK and Chancellor Fingerhut. He asked the deans to urge their faculty to investigate whether on-line texts (those authored and reviewed by faculty) can be utilized as alternative books to replace some of the expensive class texts.
- (Abraham) Dr. Arden L. Bement, Jr., Director of the National Science Foundation, wants to attend the College of STEM's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Nuclear Resonance Microscope Laboratory. The College is working on putting together a program for the event.
- (Furnish) Drs. Furnish and Sarkissian met with Akron and Kent representatives recently in a collaborative effort to support the teaching of critical foreign languages. This collaboration will allow a different language to be offered at each of the 4 universities (including CSU). (Note that Marilyn Ward must be consulted about finances involved in any collaborations.)

### **2. State Economic Development Initiatives**

Dr. Khawaja stated that Deans Council needs to take an in-depth look at the proposed State economic development initiatives (see the attachment), and see whether or not Deans Council feels YSU can participate in any initiatives at any level. Also, the YSU Board of Trustees must define by December 2008 a clear-cut plan or position as to what YSU intends to be. Council should play a pivotal role and be assertive and active players in this planning process through involvement and input. The deans clearly need to speak on the academic mission. Perhaps a joint retreat with the Cabinet and the Board of Trustees can be arranged after Council's discussion of the matter. Also, this process should be done in the context of how the state will develop funding for the next funding cycle. Dr. Khawaja said the Provost's Office will discuss the funding matters further with Neal McNally. Dr. Khawaja added that it could serve YSU well

in defining Centers of Excellence that connect YSU with faculty, students, and the community through applied research.

### 3. First- and Second-Year Faculty Luncheon

Dr. Khawaja passed out a sampling of suggestions from the first- and second-year faculty on topics that might be addressed at the Provost's Office luncheon. The deans discussed the list (see attachment) and offered suggestions.

### 4. Report on Academic Standards Committee (Edwards)

Dean Joseph Edwards, a member of the Academic Standards Committee, passed out information for Council's input on 4 items currently before the committee. The items were presented and discussed, and Dean Edwards asked the Deans Council to e-mail suggestions to him. Edwards will bring the suggestions to the Academic Standards Committee. [Please see the subsequent report attached--*Academic Standards Committee Report to the Academic Senate to be presented to the Senate on May 7, 2008.*]

Dr. Singler wished to bring to Council that the last day of withdrawal from classes with a 'W' is supposed to be the 9<sup>th</sup> week of the semester, but the Schedule of Operations identifies Thursday of the 10<sup>th</sup> week. Dean Edwards confirmed that the dates should abide by the Senate rule. Dr. Khawaja said to investigate the proper remedy if there are errors in the Schedule of Operations.

### 5. Report from CISP (Davis)

Jef Davis, Director of the Center for International Studies and Programs, distributed a report from the International Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee entitled Increasing International Enrollment at Youngstown State University. The report recommends a number of procedural changes to international admission processing, as well as some policy recommendations. Please refer to the attached documents for details of Davis' presentation.

### 6. Old/New Business

Marilyn Ward passed out the workload edits to the deans and asked that they be distributed quickly to the chairs. The deadline for submission to Marilyn is next Friday, April 25. The faculty workload reports will be run based on this input, and these reports will be distributed on Monday, April 28. The faculty workload reports must be reviewed and signed off on before the end of the term.

Deans Council will meet immediately after the Deans Development Council meeting next week to review the summer term deadlines.

7. Graduate Faculty Membership Standards Document (for all Colleges)  
(Kasvinsky)

Dr. Kasvinsky passed out two documents (attached): the Graduate Faculty Membership Standards Documents of all of the Colleges, and the Policies and Procedures for Requesting New Faculty Start-up Funds (4/11/08 Revision). Dr. Kasvinsky asked that Council read over the materials. For the Membership Standards, the deans need to look over their own documents, and compare them to those recently submitted by the new CLASS and STEM colleges, in order to align the general expectations across the colleges. In general, the overall requirements need to promulgate similar expectations, independent of the college in which membership is being sought. Once the deans have decided what changes, if any, are needed in their membership standards, the deans should take the issue to the College Graduate Studies Committee and then to the Graduate Council for official change of their documents. [The revision for new Faculty Start-up has been reviewed by the Senate Academic Research Committee and meets with their expectations.] The matters will be discussed at a future meeting.

8. Adjourn

*Minutes submitted by Debbie Withrow*