

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**April 20, 2016**  
**Leaders' Conference Room**

Present: Abraham, Cossentino, Crist, Howell, Hripko, Kestner, Licata, Mosca, Myers, Reagle, Sanders, Steelant, Ward

**Minutes of the Meeting of March 23, 2016**

Interim Dean Crist made a motion to approve the March 23, 2016, Deans Council minutes. Dean Sanders seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and the minutes were approved.

**Commencement**

Provost Abraham announced the spring commencement ceremonies will be held at 9:30 a.m. for students graduating from STEM, WCBA, and Education and at 2:30 p.m. for students graduating from CLASS, BCHHS, and CA&C. Andrea Wood will be the morning speaker and Joe Carson will be the afternoon speaker. Deans Council members who will be attending the luncheon between the two ceremonies must contact Cindy Bell to make reservations. Provost Abraham also asked each dean to share interesting student accomplishments that he can incorporate into his commencement address. Dean Sanders announced the first YSU Ph.D. student will graduate at the spring ceremony, and doctoral students will be wearing new regalia.

**Guidebook Policies**

Associate Vice President Hripko reviewed the two policies being reviewed for the June Board of Trustees meeting: 3356-10-14, Integrity in research, and 3356-10-17, Objectivity in research. Both policies have very minor editorial and organizational changes. There were no objections to the policy updates. A discussion regarding faculty members earning royalties for textbooks they write and require for classes ensued. Mr. Hripko will check with Attorney Kravitz to see if there is a policy at YSU regarding this practice, and if no policy exists, he will investigate to see if other institutions have a policy regarding this issue that could be reviewed at YSU.

**Introduction of New STEM Dean**

Dr. Wim F.A. Steelant, dean of STEM, was introduced to Council members.

**Summer**

Provost Abraham announced summer enrollment has declined the last five years. He asked that classes with enrollments of fewer than five students be cancelled. A discussion ensued that included budget, students graduating in the summer semester who may need a class being cancelled, and changing low-enrolled classes to conference courses. At the end of the discussion, it was reiterated that five students is the threshold for summer enrollment. Ms. Ward reminded deans that faculty should sign the Teaching Salary Notification form.

**Budget**

The 2017 budget will be based upon a 1% enrollment decline. YSU must reduce the current budget by \$3 million. Since Academic Affairs accounts for two-thirds of the university budget, the Academic Affairs unit is looking for \$2 million to cut. Provost Abraham explained there are usually budgetary savings with faculty retirements and replacements. There are faculty raises and

bonuses that must be accounted for in FY17. A discussion ensued. It was suggested to review enrollments of multi-section classes and to run fewer sections with higher enrollments.

Dean Sanders stated the two-tiered level of tuition for the graduate college was tabled until next year based upon the recommendation of Vice President McNally. Graduate tuition will be raised 2-3% for next academic year.

### **Roundtable**

Interim Dean Crist stated the Donald P. Pipino Performing Arts Series is presenting Mozart's opera, *Così fan tutte*, on April 22, 23, and 24, 2016. The music is sung in Italian with supertitles in English. This event is a collaboration with the Performing Arts Series, the Dana School of Music, and Opera Western Reserve. Ninety percent of the budget is from outside sources. There will be 320 school-aged children from Cleveland, Warren, and East Liverpool attending a special presentation and discussion on Friday morning, April 22, 2016.

Dean Licata stated Sam Covelli is being honored with the Beta Gamma Sigma Medallion for Entrepreneurship award on April 20.

Dean Sanders stated 80 people attended the Graduate College social on April 14, 2016. This event was conducted in collaboration with Veteran Affairs.

Associate Vice President Hripko stated the research assistant allocations are completed and have been sent to Linda Hulbert-Blosser.

Interim Dean Kestner stated her office and Dean Mosca's office shared the floral arrangements for their Honors Convocation events, thereby saving funds for the university.

Dr. Cossentino reminded Council the recognition ceremony for the Honors College will take place on April 29, 2016. There will be 200 students at the event, with an expected number of 500 attendees present. Dr. Cossentino told Council the number of applicants for the Honors College is 358 vs. 230 from last year. There are 150 honors students currently registered for next year, with another 105 scheduled to register.

Dean Steelant stated he is recruiting minority students from St. Thomas University for the Ph.D. program. He also plans to bring a busload of students weekly to visit campus to learn about STEM programs. Dean Steelant noted the STEM showcase is planned for Saturday, April 23. There are a record number of student projects being showcased. Dean Steelant asked Council to show support for the STEM students by attending this event.

Associate Provost Myers stated he is working to increase the numbers of international students enrolled at YSU. He is also working to increase the number of YSU students who will complete study abroad programs.

### **Adjournment**

With no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jodi Clowes*