

Deans' Council Minutes
Wednesday, October 7, 2020
2:00 pm–4:00 pm
Virtual Meeting Space

Attending: Ravi Krovi, Brad Mortensen, Adrienne Andrews, Eric Amsel, Bruce Bowen, Andrea Easter-Pilcher, Bret Ellis, David Ferro, Kristin Hadley, Timothy Herzog, Wendy Holliday, Brenda Kowalewski, Betsy Mennell, Matthew Mouritsen, Brett Perozzi, Julie Rich, Yas Simonian, Julie Snowball, Amanda Sowerby, Brian Stecklein, Norm Tarbox, James Taylor, Yimin Wang

Guests: Luke Jenkins, Angela McLean, Gail Niklason, Becky Thompson

Excused: Ben Ferney

1. Approval of August 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes

- a. The minutes were approved as written.

2. Provost Updates

a. Updates

- i. **CASE Competition:** Ravi congratulated Matt Mouritsen, GSBE, and the Supply Chain Management team for winning the national CASE competition.
- ii. **Trustee Interactions with Colleges:** Trustees will reach out to deans and will report back in Trustees Meetings about accomplishments and ways that the Board can support the colleges.
- iii. **Executive Committee:** CSBS tenure document recently passed Faculty Senate. Executive Committee and Faculty Senate also discussed collegiality requirements in P&T documents. Civility was also discussed in Executive Committee in relation to the upcoming election. Adrienne's team is working to put together resources to help after the election.

b. Fall Commencement (Betsy Mennell & Becky Thompson)

- i. Becky spoke with the group about plans for fall convocation exercises and the social distancing requirements for these events. Convocations are proposed to be held Dec 10-11. Similar procedures to those used in August would be in place. Becky will pull the commencement committee together to continue the planning process. Brad thanked Becky & Betsy for their work.

3. Academic Agenda/Policy Discussions

a. Faculty Loading (Ravi Krovi & Brad Mortensen)

- i. The attached document was written by colleagues at UVU and was presented at the Council of Presidents meeting. USHE plans to start a task force focusing on this policy at some point.

b. First Year First Time Student Retention (Brad Mortensen)

- i. Brad thanked everyone for their efforts in supporting these efforts. WSU reported the highest rates on record for Fall 2020.

c. Centers Discussion (Ravi Krovi)

- i.** Brenda lead a discussion about the Aletheia banquet, including its impact on colleges and how to proceed in a time of pandemic. Deans' Council requested a list of current Aletheia students sorted by college, and expressed interest in follow up data. The group also discussed communication, recruitment, and retention strategies in relationship to Aletheia students. Deans' Council expressed support for a virtual experience in February 2021, and suggested some sort of virtual tour be involved in the experience. Brenda encouraged deans to contact CATS about producing a virtual tour, and Bruce suggested that these could also be used for future recruitment efforts.