

Chairs Meeting

February 27, 2109

Present: M. Pomatto, C. Allen, C. Patterson, B. Conrad, J. Oliver, B. Winters, B. Bonneken, C. Geifer, S. Marchant, M. Meier, V. Ryder, D. Whitbeck, T. Flood, N. Grantham

Guest: Parker Welborn

Announcements:

Dr. Pomatto introduced Nancy Grantham as the new Executive Associate in the college, replacing Edith Ramage.

Dr. Pomatto reminded departments to call the Dean's Office to schedule a department meeting with her, if they have not yet done so this semester.

Strategic Visioning Update:

Regarding the "Idea Swarm" for Strategic Revisioning, Dr. Pomatto encouraged those who have not yet signed up for the Canvas course to do so. She also asked that chairs encourage their faculty and staff to sign up. The Canvas course module will be the mechanism to share information and updates on the project with campus. The primary goal of the current "Idea Swarm" is collecting ideas so all input is encouraged and any idea regarding the project is welcomed. First wave of "Idea Swarm" is due on Canvas this Friday, but, after Friday, ideas may be sent to Trish who will collect them and pass them on. Project is still in early phases and is exploring ways to get faculty input.

At PLC, the RPK representatives announced that the change model that will be used is the Cotter model which is an eight step model.

Potential RPK return dates include: TF 3/28-29; TF 4/11-12; MT 4/15-16; TF 4/18-19; MT 4/22-23, MT 4/29-30. If departments are aware of major events on campus on any of these days, please notify the Dean's Office.

Budget/enrollment update:

Current data indicates that enrollment may be down again in the fall. A main concern is retention and competition for resources. There is concern that PSU may not be competitive enough with financial help in form of scholarship/financial support for students relative to the cost of attending to attract and retain students who can sometimes get a better financial package somewhere else. Challenge is to find ways to meet this need.

Marketing:

Parker Welborn has been working on revising the college's marketing strategy and devising ways to market the college more effectively. He has met with Abby Fern and will be working with the University marketing team to enhance the college's presence. Currently, he is working on the newsletter and has asked departments to send him stories that showcase their department/programs and show what they are doing. It was suggested that he review the department web pages and pull stories from them. His

goal is to place the college marketing more within the University platform by updating current marketing materials (pamphlets) and processes.

Pitt Pathways Update:

Some concern voiced about advising with Pitt State Pathway. Guidelines do not seem clear; for example, no number of required hours for F/G listed. In addition, there will be no electronic degree check/audit available for fall advising since that component will not be completed in time. So all tracking will be “manual.” CAS leaders mentioned that not having the guidelines firmly in place also makes it more difficult to discuss coursework requirements when recruiting prospective students.

Spring break: Let the Dean’s Office know if you will be off campus during that time.

Dr. Pomatto provided an update on KBOR discussion regarding proposal change to definition of a baccalaureate degree.

CAS leaders discussed the changing “landscape” of higher education and the challenge of figuring out ways to make the changes work to department/program’s advantage. Due to the changing climate, pressure seems to be to respond more quickly. Impact of changes on accreditation was raised as a concern.

Department news:

Art is showcasing a visiting artist (mixed media and textiles) tomorrow at 4:00 p.m.

FCS is taking twelve student presenters to a conference next week.

Science Day is tomorrow. Biology, Chemistry, and Physics will host 700 plus students from 8:00-2:00.

Jazz Festival is Friday. Music will host 1500 students from over 70 schools.