



KELCE
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
Pittsburg State University

MINUTES

Kelce Leadership Team

8:30 a.m. – Room #121

April 15, 2025

Present: Alex Binder, Paul Grimes, Holly Kent, Lynn Murray, Mimi Morrison

Absent: Chelsey Decker (sick)

I. Dean's Administrative Update

- a. This week at Provost Academic Leadership (PAL) meeting:
 1. Administration preparing for KBOR meeting on campus this week
 2. Additional discussion of DEI elimination mandate; Provost Bon and the other KBOR provosts met to discuss and made formal request for board guidance to implement the law's provisions; our Inclusion and Belonging center will become the Campus and Community Support Center with added focus on student volunteerism in the community
 3. Bryronni's job to become a split roll with budgeting office; will work with Barbara Winter; Aaron will still be contact for HR procedures and issues; Stephanie will handle all else
 4. New internal searches opening soon; Associate Dean for COE – will allow Susan to serve as interim dean for one year; Assistant Provost – to replace Jan's HLC role and help with curriculum process
 5. KNEA; much discussion as to ongoing negotiations and what items should have priority; list distributed
 6. Summer retreat; waiting for the new CCOT dean to arrive in late July; off-campus site TBD
- b. Differential tuition proposal; Dean Grimes met with Kelce Student Leadership Council (see separate handout); meeting with VP Ball and Provost Bon to discuss; idea moving forward to be in line with CCOT format; proposal is \$30 per credit hour with \$300 ceiling per semester; will generate ≈ \$400K per academic year; proposal will go to KBOR for consideration in May with this year's tuition proposal to be implemented next year; stay tuned
- c. Establishment of a new business professional development and outreach center; HRD faculty willing to take the lead to get this off the ground; Mark Johnson coordinating the effort; at HRD retreat they brainstormed potential names for the center – see list of latest options following these minutes; discussion followed but no clear preference determined – additional consideration needed
- d. Repair and Replacement Policy; last fall, due to pending new building, Dean Grimes requested a deferral for KCOB on requested development of a written policy to manage equipment servicing and replacement; did not realize the request was not granted and as a result we received an "unsatisfactory" opinion on an internal audit; evidently other colleges had not complied either and received same opinion; Dean Grimes met with Internal Auditor Jaime Dalton yesterday – we will provide a cover memo explaining our current R&R procedures and she will note that the audit only covers the fact that we do not have a current written policy due to our circumstances and that the audit's opinion are not indicative of how we are currently managing our equipment; we will need a written policy by next FY and plans to inventory all new equipment purchases for new building; big job!

II. Discussion of new building

- a. Owner-Architect-Contractor (OAC) meetings to begin April 23; larger group than in design meetings to date
- b. Discuss latest interior renderings; have not seen what will be available for KBOR this week

III. Administrative Area Updates

- a. ADGPB – Chelsey: out sick – working on hiring GAs for next fall
- b. ADMIN – Mimi: preparations continue for KCOB Awards and Scholarship Reception; otherwise, no report
- c. ADUSB – Lynn: BGS names were sent in for inclusion in the Spring Commencement program (35 coming to induction ceremony); KCOB Spring Picnic is May 6
- d. DSES – Holly: meeting with academic advising to go over HRD four-year plans; will do a retreat early in the summer with Business Professionalism instructors; VIP Connect – new program by Career Development – several Business Professionalism instructors have volunteered to be guinea pigs for the program

- e. FC – Alex: working on revisions to the new catalog – discussed idea to include Courtesy Faculty in listings; working on summer school budget spreadsheets – due April 18; discussed enrollments in certain summer courses – some teaching assignments may need to be adjusted due to low or no enrollment in a couple of sections; KCOB research workshop on 4/25; met with reps in Housing for student Living Learning Community (LLC) – plan is for first-year student group to live in Trout Hall – discussed recommendation that a faculty member lead the LLC project – leader will receive a \$2,000 stipend from Housing – students are currently being recruited for the program (cohort to enroll in Gorilla Gateway together) – Housing also talking to business, construction and pre-med students for other LLCs

IV. Personnel Updates

- a. Entrepreneurship Coordinator – Jane Talkington; appointment process in works
- b. Forecasting Director (with RED) – reworking position description; no update
- c. Data Analyst (with RED) – committee still reviewing late applications; no update
- d. Accounting & Finance Assistant Instructional Professor – Lakshmi Chennupati; accepted position; in process
- e. Assistant Professor of Marketing – committee formed; will start meeting this Wednesday
- f. Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics – D.J. Jiang; one-year reappointment in process; working on visa
- g. HRD Faculty Transition to KCOB – process underway; originating new position lines assigned to KCOB

V. Old or New Business

- a. Curriculum proposals at this week's KBOR meeting
 - 1. Supply Chain Management – new BBA (in connection with the CCOT's new Industrial Distribution); second reading to be presented at Council of Chief Academic Officers, 9:00 a.m. 04/16 – Dr. Grimes requested to be there to answer any questions
- b. Catalog updates – in progress

VI. Adjourn – 10:15 a.m.

Attachments:

From: Mark Johnson <mjohnson@pittstate.edu>
Sent: Monday, April 14, 2025 1:12 PM
To: Paul Grimes <pgrimes@pittstate.edu>
Subject: Proposed Kelce Center

As I am working on the proposal, here are a few possible other names I have come up with. Do you like the sound of any of these?

"The Business Edge"

"The Business Insight Academy"

"The Business Growth Lab"

"Business Elevation Center"

"Business Knowledge Center"

Let me know what you think.

Mark

Dr. Mark L. Johnson
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From: Paul Grimes
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2025 11:46 AM
To: Doug Ball <dbball@pittstate.edu>; Susan Bon <sbon@pittstate.edu>
Cc: Christopher Childers <rchilders@pittstate.edu>; Bryronni Ferguson <bferguson@pittstate.edu>; Stacy Wolownik <swolownik@pittstate.edu>; Barbara Winter <bwinter@pittstate.edu>
Subject: - Meeting with KCOB Students -

Doug & Susan, et al. -

On your suggestion, I met with the Kelce Student Leadership Council yesterday about their thoughts on a differential tuition fee for the college. It was a great conversation and I'll highlight the major takeaways below:

- All in attendance participated in the discussion and no one spoke against the idea.
- Everyone agreed that the overall goal of the differential fee was worthy as all business students would benefit from it.
- Several have friends who are CCOT majors, but no one recalled ever even hearing about the current tech college fee, let alone any complaints about it. They concluded from this fact that an additional fee on credit hours "wasn't a big deal" overall. However, they did like the feature of a maximum fee cap.
- One student stated, "we are business students, of course we understand the need."
- They like the idea of phasing in the fee . . . suggested to start a fee next academic year but exempt those students who are seniors as they will not be likely to benefit from the fee. After that, all students would pay the fee.
- A couple students asked about how this would impact the number of our business minors who are tech majors as they would have double fees some semesters.
- All agreed that the fee on all business courses would be preferable than a long menu of fees based on specific courses. Asked if individual course fees would go away.
- Lots and lots of questions about the new building. After I described some of the new features, they were actually enthusiastic about a fee to have access to such a facility.

These students represented the full cross-section of current majors in the college. Based on what I heard, I don't think we'd have any significant blow back from the student body if we imposed a differential along the lines of the CCOT fee. As leaders, I believe some of these students would be willing to explain and advocate in support of the fee. I left the meeting feeling very proud of our students!

Paul

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