

Academic Update

January 30, 2017

COAD Meeting-January 30, 2017

1. The COAD discussed several shared governance committee assignments that needed to be filled by a COAD member.
2. The COAD reviewed the proposed language for revision to 3.3.4 of the Faculty Handbook (Faculty with Administrative/Directorial Responsibilities). The deans pointed out a number of faculty who would fall under the proposed 66% rule that continue to be fulltime faculty with regular duties. The provost agreed to share these examples with the chair of faculty senate. The COAD also had concern about requiring votes within the department prior to allowing certain faculty with administrative duties to participate.
3. The COAD discussed a sick leave proposal created by the SGEC Chair in an attempt to reconcile the current absence of consensus on an agreeable policy. The SGEC Chair will be notified of concerns that were raised.
4. The COAD reviewed a proposed change to the personal leave policy for employees. The revision revises the language from two days to five days with supervisor approval that can be charged against sick leave.
5. Dean Melvin Davis presented a proposal to create an institutional repository at UNA. He outlined the benefits to the academic community at UNA. The COAD endorsed going forward with the request.
6. Dean Donna LeFort shared information with COAD about the academic awards presented at the academic awards gala and proposed a few minor changes to improve the event.
7. Dean LeFort also informed the COAD of a name change for the HES Department. Parallel to this discussion, the COAD discussed the need for consistency among department names that rely on commas.
8. The COAD discussed issues related to the academic calendar. How to better utilize the days at the start of the semester, how to ensure that fall and spring have comparable number of hours of instruction, and what to do about Thanksgiving were among the items discussed.
9. Dr Zhang shared information about the executive order issued by President Trump and its impact on UNA students.
10. The provost indicated that a trustee meeting will be held on February 2 to address a property purchase and name change.
11. Dean Pierce shared an update on the provost search.
12. Dr Borah provided an update on the dual degree program being developed.
13. Dr Carnes asked questions about how to handle donor notification, especially among faculty.