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Council of Chairs Minutes

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11-5-2015

Council of Chairs Meeting, October 5, 2015

Marshall University, Huntington, WV

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Council of Chairs 11/5/2015

In attendance:

Michael Castellani, chemistry
Marty Laubach, Sociology and anthropology
Richard Kravchek, music and Theater
Dan Holbrook, history
Sandra Reed, art and design
M. Shane Tomblin, college of business
Penny Kroll, COHP-PT
Karen McNealy, COHP-CD
Del Chrol, Classics
Allyson Goodman, CAM SOJMC

Initial agenda item was how to introduce the Council of Chairs to the new president. We will invite the new president later this month for a meeting in the spring semester.

Idea: ask the new president to present his vision of the future of Marshall to those of us who are on the front line of the academic side of things

-we need to send a email to chairs asking what they want to ask him

It was reminded that every chair and director of a program is welcome, you don't need to be invited to join and you can send a substitute if you can't make it

There was a discussion about personnel and consolidating of positions as well as purchasing. This led to:

IDEA: send to the new president a list of things we would like the new president to address and some proposals (such as re- instituting Chair training for new chairs)

-it was suggested that we revisit Jane Hill's document of two years ago as a foundational or initial document for our concerns. Two key reasons we thought of using this as a stepping stone was that it was well articulated and largely unaddressed, and that the president was going to hear from the board of governors and upper administration what the problems are, we should have a voice as well.

-Mike will redistribute the document to the chairs and solicit revisions of content and tone

- It was agreed that framing the concerns was critical so we sound more like partners in the university rather than simply complaining. We would like to be partners in the decision process.

It was then proposed that we fix the document before we meet with the new president before sending him the document in order to see his mettle and vision before complaining. A counter argument was stated that the problems are still the problems regardless of the president and it is likely that the president would not know the concerns of folks at our level.

It was also suggested that we send the new president some questions to prepare before meeting us in the spring

Since we have one more face to face meeting left this fall, we will likely revisit the topic of this meeting at that meeting. The final meeting of the term will happen at the new visual arts center.