

Dean's Council Notes
November 18, 2005
Joint Deans and Chairs meeting

Feras Sadik, the Chief Justice for the SGA, attended the meeting and handed out a sample ballot that showed the wording of the ballot for the SGA Referendum on an APSU smoking policy:

“Do you support a policy to make APSU a completely smoke-free campus?”

Voting will be administered online from 8:00 AM, November 28th to 4:30 PM, December 1, 2005. Results of this vote will be taken to the President's Cabinet and presented as the student majority opinion.

Susan Calovini reported on a proposal she had to create a University webpage to house standard required syllabus policies. This webpage would then allow faculty to refer to the page's URL and devote syllabus space to course specifics. Topics for the webpage include class attendance, academic and classroom conduct, disability policy, minors in the classroom, University-excused absences, and any other policies that become mandatory. On this webpage would also be navigational aids to information and resources for students. Susan Calovini also reported on the creation of a committee to address improving adjunct faculty services and orientation. Some areas the committee is to address include the possibility of creation of an online handbook for adjuncts and how to provide or, if to provide, email access to the APSU domain.

Phil Roberson provided an update on NCATE accreditation. The NCATE reviewers will be on campus February 17-21, 2007. He believes there are two concerns for the NCATE review: field experience and faculty resources. He spoke about this current Fall semester and how many of the education students are only JUST now getting their field experience at the various schools. Some of the lateness is due to poor communication with the schools and some is due to the schools being overwhelmed with “No Child Left Behind” requirements that prevent access to the classroom.

Diane Berty requested faculty names and topics for the upcoming Hot-Topics program. The Hot-topics program would have two faculty members introduce the topic, discuss the topic and then open the floor to student discussion. Student Affairs would moderate the discussion. Each program would last about 1 or 1 ½ hours. Some example topics included embryo research, gun control, and drinking on campus. Each department was asked to provide a faculty member and topic idea and forward this information by December 6th onto Diane McDonald who will manage them. The program is out of the Student Affairs office.

Harriet McQueen and Diane Berty presented a PowerPoint presentation on a Title III grant proposal: “Title III: Strengthening Institutions Program: for postsecondary institutions that serve high proportions of disadvantaged students.” As a part of this grant writing process, several surveys/questionnaires will be sent out to faculty and departments.

Harriet McQueen passed out a document and explained that a student who has been placed into DSP courses based on ACT score may challenge placement by taking the COMPASS

assessment. They may only challenge once and they must pay a \$20 fee. A student who took the COMPASS assessment as part of admission requirements and believes has been inaccurately placed in DSP courses may retake the COMPASS after 30 days. They too are limited to one retake and also must pay the \$20 fee.

Harriet also passed out a document on the role of the Career and Advisement Center (CAC) in Academic Advising. All UNDECLARED UNDERGRADUATE students are assigned to CAC for advisement. The CAC will advise students who have declared a major BUT are changing to another major but are unsure of what that something else should be. The gist of the document is that the CAC does not advise students who have declared a major and are happy with that major.