

## **Deans Council Notes on Wednesday 23-September-2009**

Prepared by William Rayburn, Faculty Senate representative to Deans Council

### **Protection of student information.**

Julia McGee reported that this fall there will be further system upgrades that will increase security for student data including A-numbers.

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### **Student email for life, increased storage capacity for faculty email.**

Soon there should be permanent email addresses that students can take with them after they leave Austin Peay. This could enable stronger ties between alumni and the university community.

This fall faculty members should have increased storage space for email, perhaps doubling the current capacity.

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### **Recognition of long-term faculty.**

The Deans Council began discussion of special recognition for long-term faculty members, such as those who reach the 40-year milestone with the university.

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### **Core substitutions process revision.**

Various issues have come up with the process of core substitutions. The current process has a faculty advisor initiate the form and send it to the Dean of her/his college for final approval. The Deans Council brought up examples of problems with the system and a concern that there be consistency with what gets approved and what does not.

The discussion also acknowledged that there may be specific situations that pertain to specific programs as to what could legitimately get approved or disapproved for a substitution. As an example, some programs specify particular math and social science requirements.

In addition, the Provost noted that certain core substitution requests recur over and over again and are routinely approved. In such cases, would it not be most efficient to recognize that in the system and thus avoid the need for substitutions? There was general agreement among Deans Council members on this point.

There was also some discussion about consistency regarding approved substitutions coming from community colleges.

Interesting point: There is a distinction between a core requirement, a program requirement, and a university requirement. For example, there are a number of Math classes that satisfy the core requirement for Math; however, a program (such as Physics or Business) often specifies a particular

Math course to be taken. This is a program requirement – it can be related to a core requirement but technically is not the same thing. APSU 1000 is an example of a university requirement.

The Provost proposed that (major) department chairs be added to the approval process for core substitutions. At present department chairs are only involved in the major/minor substitution process. The revised core substitution process would start with the faculty advisor approval, then move to the department chair for review and approval, and finish with the dean's review and approval. The Deans Council approved this revision to the process by a voice vote.

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**Work flow review.**

Work flow issues are being reviewed at present. Two on-going reviews are (1) the change-of-major process and (2) the change-of-grade process.

A goal of the workflow review process is to transfer documents electronically as opposed to a paper-based method.

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**Peay-Read event.**

The Peay Read event will be October 1<sup>st</sup> in the Dunn Center.

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**Faculty professional development.**

A group is looking at faculty professional development sabbaticals, hopefully for Spring 2010. A concern raised in the Deans Council was that selection would need to move quickly since Spring teaching schedules would need to be put together soon.

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**Peay Card availability.**

Peay Cards are on order right now. A faculty member can get a \$30 card for a whole family or a \$15 card for the faculty member and a guest. Covered by the card are music, art, creative writing, theater, and dance events that are fully-funded through the Center for Excellence in the Creative Arts.