

Winthrop University—Academic Council

Friday, September 20, 2019 2:00pm

G01 Owens Hall

Kelly	Costner	COE
Kristen	Abernathy	CAS
DeAnn	Brame	Library
Alice	Burmeister	CVPA
Jennifer	Disney	CAS
Laura	Glasscock	CAS
Erin	Hamel	COE
Matthew	Hayes	CAS
Dustin	Hoffman*	CAS
Alice	McLaine	COE
Wendy	Sellers	CAS
Larry	Stevens*	CBA
Danko	Tarabar	CBA
Jason	Tselentis	CVPA
Michael	Whitney	CBA
Brad	Witzel	COE
Kristen	Wonderlich	CVPA
Gina	Jones	Rec and Reg
Imani	Belton	Student

*absent

Guests: Tim Drueke, Jeff Belantoni, Adolphus Belk, Adrienne McCormick, P.N. Saksena

I. **Approval of minutes** of the April 2019 meeting—approved unanimously

II. **Remarks from the Chair** (Kelly Costner)

Dr. Costner said we were just getting started so he did not have much to say. He indicated he had met with the Provost and that they brainstormed some things we need to address.

III. **Remarks from the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs** (Adrienne McCormick)

In conversations with academic leadership, what rose to the top for goals for the year was retention. We arrived at a consensus that we have a modest goal of moving from 80.9 to 81.6 % retention from fall to fall. [This is the “Wildly Important Goal”—WIG] The goal is to move this by next fall. We wanted to identify all degree-seeking students. We’re excluding completers.



2019-2020 WIG:

Increase Fall-to-Fall retention for all degree-seeking students from 80.9 to 81.6 percent by Fall 2020.

Degree-Seeking Students	Fall 2016	Fall 2017	Fall 2018	Fall 2019
UG	4791	4710	4545	4440
G	781	701	715	831
Total	5572	5411	5260	5271
Less completers	4256	4085	4014	
Retained	3501	3338	3249	
Percent retained	82.3	81.7	80.9	81.6
Non-completers/retained	754	747	765	738

We will still target efforts of first-year groups. She asked, “What are the dynamics of transfers who are not retained?” With the complexities we’re facing, we thought this modest shift was appropriate.

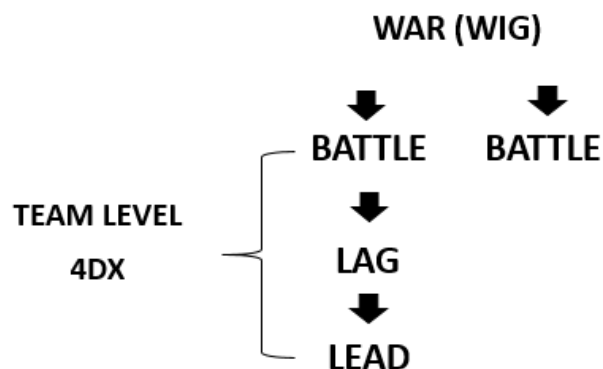
Mr. Tselentis asked how we were factoring in students who leave for financial reasons.

Dr. McCormick indicated that this is factored in.

She then discussed lag and lead measures.



From Mission to WIG



We will identify individual efforts that can help us move the dial on retention rates at all levels.

Mr. Tselentis spoke about students consistently coming to him with financial issues. He asked about a capital campaign

Dr. McCormick indicated there was a fund put in place by a donor which students with less than \$1000 could use to close the gap.

She then discussed Team WIGS.



2019-2020 Priorities

Team Wigs (the battles that win the war):

- Identifying individual efforts that can help us move the dial on retention rates at all levels.
 - First-year retention WIGS:
 - Advising efforts:
 - Adding resources in colleges and admissions
 - Fully leveraging DegreeWorks
 - Post-LEAP pilot
 - Policy revisions (such as S/U options, second back, cultural events, seamless transfer)
 - Course scheduling: Do we build a student-driven schedule? How well do we use data to determine offerings?

Dr. Hayes commented that if we don't know why students are leaving we're shooting in the dark.

Dr. McCormick said student services reached out to students not registered at the end of spring, so there is data. We're trying to get better about closing the loophole in terms of gathering the data. She indicated that the National Student Clearinghouse gives us data on non-returners and will tell us who went elsewhere.

Dr. Hayes stated that it sounds like we're being asked to shoot at specific targets but we're not sure that's the reason the students are leaving.

Dr. McCormick talked about the LEAP program and intrusive advising as the students were doing better when it was in place. Yes, we have challenges. She asked, "Who does what kind of effort? Are there any major roadblocks?" Our goal is no 100% retention but student success.

Dr. Hayes said he was concerned about the students who really want to graduate from somewhere else being classified as a non-completer.

Dr. Abernathy questioned why those students were at Winthrop to start with. Perhaps advisors, before the student decides to change universities, can make sure "major" is a right fit for them. If they're not finding the right fit here, we should help them find a better fit here. She went on to ask if there was a financial literacy time during orientation. As a first-time parent of a college student, she found this to be needed.

Dr. Wonderlich said there was. She also stated it would be nice to have more centralized help in advising. She felt like there was a great discrepancy with the quality of advising for our students and thought faculty advisors could use more support, in general. She believed this would help with retention.

Dr. McCormick talked about changes with the University College Dean being an Associate Vice President for student success. She also discussed about retention rates sorted by socioeconomic indicators. She noted that retention of Pell recipients was down to under 70%. She went on to say that Access and Enrollment Management is exploring getting the right kinds of lists of students to make sure whoever comes is in the right place.

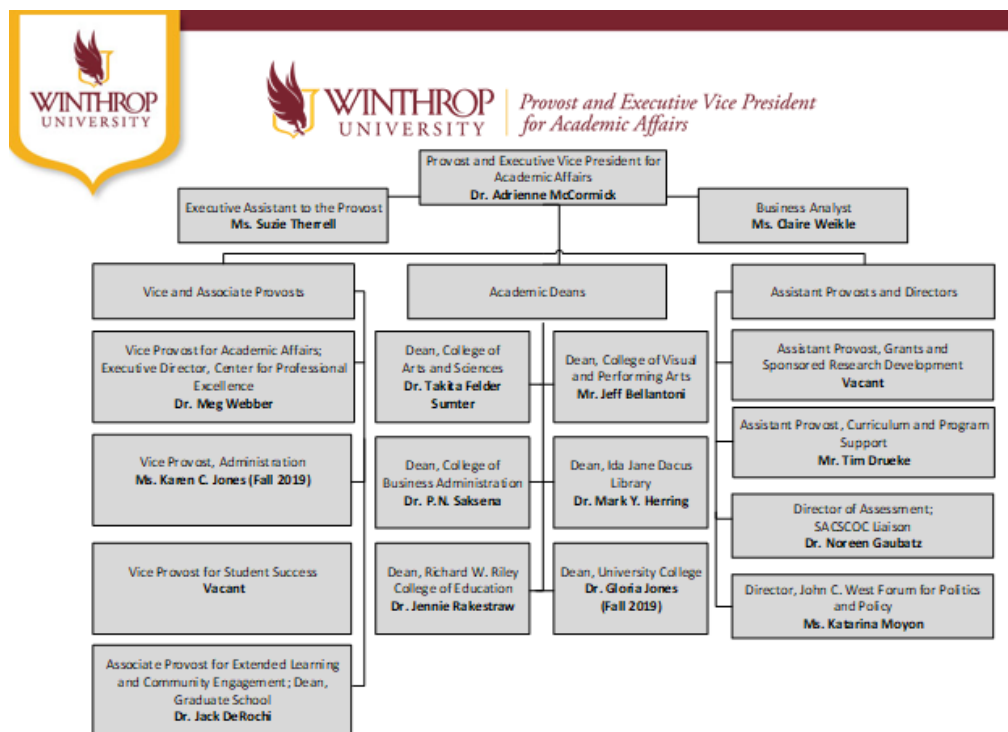
Dr. Disney spoke about the Women’s Coalition having money for a bridge fund for students. She also asked, “How can we make the LEAP experience for all students?”

Dr. McCormick said that not everyone needs this (kind of support), but how do get support to the student who needs it? Technology, advising...students don’t always want the touchy feely contact with people.

Ms. Belton asked about a pilot program. Adrienne talked about LEAP taking a hiatus, and now we’re asking students who would qualify to participate in certain activities. This semester, 44 agreed to participate (98 did not). They are still being communicated with.

Dr. Sellers asked, “Where do faculty go to be a part of a group to make suggestions about these goals?” Dr. McCormick recommended she contact Dr. Gloria Jones.

Dr. McCormick went over the provost’s office flowchart.



She then shared some other Provost Office activities.



Other activities:

- Academic Master Planning process to pick up where Academic Program Mix 2016 report left off
- AACRAO consultation for Records and Registration
- Comprehensive Academic Affairs policy review
- Collaborating on Faculty Bylaws revisions with Rules Committee
- Post-tenure Professional Development policy and procedures.
- Ombuds Advisory Committee formation
- Academic Affairs Restructuring and searches

IV. Remarks from the President of the Council of Student Leaders (CSL) (Imani Belton)

Ms. Belton introduced herself. She is a Senior Integrated Marketing Communication major. She was a former LEAP student. She indicated she was proud about the diversity of the council this year. Three international students and a non-traditional student are included. There is about fifty-fifty male to female ratio. She then told the council to let her know if she can be a voice for this body.

V. Reports from Standing Committees

A. Committee on University Curriculum (Laura Glasscock)

The Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum met on Friday, September 13, 2019.

One new program was approved by the council following discussion (below).

Program		Department	Action
BA-DSCI	Data Science	Mathematics	New degree program

Dr. Whitney expressed concern that this has been a joint conversation, but we haven't seen anything in writing that it is a joint program. It relies heavily on computer science courses. We need to ensure that we recommend that curriculum and petitions committees include the Computer Science and Quantitative Methods department.

Dr. Abernathy indicated there was an agreement between department chairs and will include advisors from both. Her understanding was they didn't want it to be under interdisciplinary studies so it is being housed in the Math department.

Dr. Whitney said he wanted to see that there are computer science experts in the program, that there was an articulated collaboration.

Dr. Bellantoni asked, “How do define what a joint program means?”

Mr. Tselentis said this goes back to retention—students lost in shuffle—advisors not having their file.

Dr. Abernathy said there would be advisors in both departments. There is a subset of math and computer science faculty who are interested in this.

Dr. Glasscock asked, “Where would this language be?” Dr. Costner said this wasn’t necessarily a curriculum issue. Mr. Druke replied that this would be an administration issue.

Dr. McCormick asked if each program had a curriculum committee. Mr. Druke indicated no. She suggested a new model. Dr. Costner said there were advisory committees that did do curriculum work.

It was then suggested that we can add notes to the Curriculum Application System to indicate this information.

The following program changes were approved unanimously by the council:

Program		Department	Action
MINOR-FILM	Film & Content Production	Mass Communication	Modify minor: Add MCOM 346, 360 and FILM 461, 462, 463, 464 to choices for 6 hours of minor electives.
MINOR-CMST	Communication Studies	Mass Communication	Modify minor: Add MCOM 304 to the Human Communication area of study.
MINOR-HUMA	Humanities	Interdisciplinary Studies	Modify minor: Under PHIL, change from “all courses except 220, 225, and 370” to “PHIL – all courses except 220, 225, and 371.”
Minor-WRIT	Writing	English	Modify minor: To the minor core add WRIT 311 (when topic is appropriate) and WRIT 503; Clarify language regarding when courses can be used in the minor; Add WRIT 311 (when topic is appropriate), 431, 432, and 433 to the professional emphasis; Remove MCOM 226, 241, 260, 302, 341, 370, BADM 180, 411, MGMT 365, IMCO 105, and DESF161/VCOM 261; add VCOM 262 in the professional emphasis.

B. General Education Committee (Alice McLaine)

1. ***First Certify-- These were approved unanimously by the council:***

Global—VCOM 392 Special Topics: “X-Men: A Social History,” “Comic Books Through the Ages—Silver Age,” “Comic Books Through the Ages—Golden Age” for Spring 2020.

Historical—VCOM 392

Humanities and Arts—VCOM 392

(VCOM 392 is a special topics course. Only the sections being offered for Spring 2020 were requested for Gen Ed approval. Faculty Conference vote will not be required.)

Oral—NUTR 428, Community and Cultural Nutrition

2. **Additional GNED Business**--Component reviews

- Physical Activity
- Quantitative Skills

This is the year to review components of physical activity and quantitative skills. Dr. McLaine said she and Dr. Costner would be asking for council members to be on subcommittees. She also announced that the General Education inclusion forms have been updated.

Dr. McLaine sent the email below on 9/20/19 to department chairs. Dr. Costner asked that it be included in these minutes:

Good morning,

I am following up on the note that Dean Gloria Jones sent about the forms for inclusion or recertification of general education courses. As you recall, all courses included in general education must be recertified on a routine basis. This year 200 level courses in Global Perspectives, Oral Communication, Technology, Humanities and Arts, and Constitution are up for review. Please make sure that any courses your department currently teaches that meet one of these areas is submitted this year.

The General Education Committee meets the following dates this year. Materials for consideration must be submitted at least one week before the meeting. I have put the deadline in parentheses to help with your planning.

November 1, 2019 (October 25)

January 31, 2020 (January 24)

March 12, 2020 (March 5)

Below is the link needed to access the recertification and inclusion documents.

<http://www2.winthrop.edu/login/uc/gened/Default.aspx>

Please let me know if you have any questions or problems.

Alice J. McLaine, PhD, SCAT, ATC

Chair, General Education Committee

Dr. Costner indicated that component reviews were ad hoc. He suggested that the council codify the process.

VI. **Old Business**

Dr. Costner said he would highlight these in an email.

VII. **New Business**

A. AC support of Recruitment and Retention goal: Comprehensive review of Academic Regulations and Degree Requirements

Dr. Costner spoke to recruitment and retention and asked that the council take a look at regulations and degree requirements. He pointed to S/Us. This was a targeted move. There are others. He asked if this is something we want to undertake? Dr. Wonderlich said it is daunting but needs to be done.

Dr. Sellers said it would be helpful to have a student perspective on this. Ms. Belton agreed.

Dr. Hayes stated he would feel better if we were addressing why students are leaving. Then we'd be working towards something. We should be focusing on why students didn't return.

Dr. McCormick suggested a survey with student services and advisors to see what some areas of concerns are. It might be how we word things. She noted [degree requirements for] second baccalaureate degrees.

Dr. Costner noted that catalog is condensed and you have to read every word to get the policy. This may have been to save paper. This isn't an issue anymore. Maybe it could be laid out better.

Dr. Disney said it made sense to drill down into data to help inspire what we do.

Dr. McLaine supported this idea. She has served on Gen Ed core committee, and when asked for data, our preconceived notions were not supported by data. Having data makes a key difference.

Dr. Costner has broken out policies in a chart and will send out in an email for council members to look at and comment on.

B. Review of Bylaws –this will be addressed later.

VIII. Announcements/ Adjournment

No announcements.

Dr. Costner adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gina Jones, Secretary