

**Gordon Ford College of Business**  
Leadership Team Meeting  
Via Zoom  
Thursday, April 1, 2021  
**9:00 am**

Members present: Drs. Ray Blankenship, Indu Chhachhi, Lukas Forbes, Alex Lebedinsky, Whitney Peake, Mark Ross, Evelyn Thrasher, and Chris Shook, presiding.

Dr. Shook asked for approval of the minutes from the March 18, 2021 meeting. Dr. Whitney Peake made a motion to approve the minutes, and Dr. Ray Blankenship seconded. The minutes were approved with no change.

Dr. Forbes shared the Marketing Department held their first corporate sponsored internal sales competition and it was considered a success. The competition was led by Mr. Jeff Peake. The department is looking forward to hosting similar events in the future, possibly two or three each semester.

Dr. Chhachhi mentioned the Finance Advisory Board is planning a meeting via Zoom soon. They will also offer a face-to-face symposium during the fall semester.

Dr. Blankenship said that Dr. Steve Wells announced the Master of Accountancy & Data Analysis has been through the approval process in the Registrar's office and can now be advertised. It will be available beginning fall 2021. Information Systems has graduate Data Analytics and Cybersecurity Analytics courses in the program.

There have been some questions regarding the SACSCOC Program delivery modes, so Dr. Thrasher provided clarity to the chairs. She gave some background information on the requirements of SACS regarding on-line programs. She went on to explain that the university definition of on-line programming is four-fold: completely face to face, completely online, 50% or more of virtual modality would be on-line hybrid, and 50% or more of in class modality would be classroom hybrid. SACS is interested in what the departments intend their program to be considered. The chairs were encouraged to think about future offerings when indicating their modality preference. Major requirements, admission requirements, and core courses for each department were discussed.

The Leadership Team discussed the candidates and voted on the remaining GFCB Awards. Winners will be announced at a later date.

Dr. Shook shared some minor updates:

- He plans to have a half-day meeting with the Department Chairs to discuss the summer and fall plans. Be on the lookout for that.
- The deans are getting a bit more clarification on the VSIP program. On July 1, the retirees' lines will be removed from the budget. The deans are working with the Provost's office to fund the covering of courses and there are conversations regarding the process

for rehiring faculty. Our college is looking at staffing adjustments and considering ways to be more efficient while still serving the students effectively.

- GFCG has been trying to get a communications person, sharing their time with Ogden College. The dean is unsure of the status.
- Our Business Advisory Council meeting will be held on April 16. It will be held in the auditorium as well as offered on Zoom. Highlights of the meeting include the college's strategic plan, our business LLC, and our student services. We will be inviting a new group of council members in the fall semester and the dean would like nominations from the Leadership Team of who would be interested in serving. He is looking for a diverse group that represents the student of GFCB.
- Department Chairs are asked to think about what their presence on a consistent basis within Grise Hall during the summer looks like. Staff is expected to be here during regular office hours.

Dr. Lebedinsky asked for guidance on offering courses for the honors college, and wondered what the cost of doing so was to the college. The deans and chairs discussed the pros and cons of offering courses for the Honors Program.

Dr. Blankenship asked if there were any discretionary funds that can be used for scholarships. All incoming freshman should go to TopDollar and complete an application. This automatically registers them for any scholarships they are eligible. GFCB scholarships for freshman are limited, as most of the college's scholarships are for returning students. Dr. Thrasher asked Dr. Blankenship to send her the name of the student he is referring to and she will look into what funds are available.

Dr. Chhachhi asked, and Dr. Blankenship agreed, if Dr. Shook could follow up with the new provost about getting lines approved early in the fall so that we can hire for Fall 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am. The next Leadership Team meeting is scheduled for April 15, 2021 at 9:00 am via Zoom.