

Gordon Ford College of Business
Leadership Team Meeting
Via Zoom
Thursday, September 17, 2020
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. Chris Shook asked for approval of the minutes from the September 10, 2020 meeting. Dr. Alex Lebedinsky made a motion to approve the minutes, and Dr. Ray Blankenship seconded. The minutes were approved with no change.

Dr. Indu Chhachhi explained the Center for Financial Success has been setting up tables in the back yard of Grise Hall. They are being creative in reaching out to students, under the current circumstances.

The WKU Sisterhood had been giving out grants, in the past, to various project-based initiatives. This year, however, they are not going through the same process. They are focusing more on need-based individuals, in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. The chairs were asked to send any submission suggestions to Dr. Evelyn Thrasher. She will connect with Ms. Amanda Lich and Ms. Summer Bacon for follow up.

Dr. Shook provided a brief update on CAD:

- Continuing to work with DELO and the Honors College to complete service level agreements.
- Hanover made a presentation on grant assistance that could be available.
- A presentation was also given on the new bookstore portal. The department chairs were encouraged to have their faculty submit their textbook orders in quickly as there is a correlation of how soon orders are placed with the cost to students.
- A policy on appointing, evaluating, retaining, and reassigning Assistant and Associate Deans is being developed.

A reminder that continuances are due by September 20. Please forward the committee's letter and documentation to the dean. It will be kept on file in the dean's office.

The Admissions office is asking for input on hosting an in-person recruiting event, with safety protocols in place. Dr. Thrasher shared that she and Ms. Marissa Bryant attended the Head for the Hill on Saturday, a virtual recruiting event. It was not well attended by prospective students. Outcomes and concerns of virtual vs. in-person recruiting events were discussed. The chairs would like additional information on logistics of hosting such an event before deciding.

The dean's office has received several reports that there is an issue of mask compliance by faculty. Dr. Shook asked the leadership team their thoughts on the best way to address the issue. Suggestions included the department chair having a brief conversation with the faculty member

at fault and sending out an email to all full-time and part-time faculty, reminding them that wearing a mask in the classroom is a requirement.

The department chairs recently received an email from Dr. Thrasher that included a document of what a new core curriculum could look like. She reminded them of the charge to the Core Curriculum Committee. There are three aspects that we are assessing: Content Knowledge, Skills and Abilities in the Workplace, and Professionalism and Corporate Citizenship. They are thinking creatively, possibly offering 2-hour courses to meet degree requirements, for example. There was conversation of possible unintended consequences, how teaching loads may be affected, and student credit hours. Dr. Thrasher commended the committee and shared their eagerness to look over our current curriculum and determine what is best for our student's success. Allowing students to take our classes earlier in their college career was proposed for a greater success rate. Dr. Thrasher asked for the support of the leadership team as the committee moves forward. Dean Shook requested that the department chairs encourage their faculty to keep an open mind.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 am. The next GFAC meeting is scheduled for September 24, 2020 at 9:00 am via Zoom.