

4-16-2009

## Deans' Forum Summary, April 16, 2009

UNO Office of Academic and Student Affairs  
*University of Nebraska at Omaha*

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Attending: Terry Hynes, Harmon Maher, Deb Smith-Howell, Gail Baker, Lanyce Keel, David Conway, Hesham Ali, Steve Bullock, Tom Gouttierre, Lou Pol, B.J. Reed, David Boocker, Steve Shorb

Guests: John Bartle, Kathy Menke, Richard Duggin, Joan Bell, Lynn Harland, Shelley Schafer, Leah Pietron (for Distance Ed discussion)

**1. New Business**

**1.1 Distance Education Initiatives – Lanyce Keel (handouts included)**

- John Bartle spoke on behalf of DE Directors regarding state of DE programs. Mentioned that many programs are at capacity and encouraged group to consider hiring tenure-track faculty with DE funds. Bartle identified examples of programs covering much of their operational costs through DE revenue. Bartle provided examples from his program relating to expenses, revenues and surplus levels over the last several years.
- General discussion about the implications with general agreement that the flexibility would be good for colleges and DE programs.
- The group ended with a discussion about marketing of DE programs.
- Some discussion about the distribution of DE funds that currently go to colleges.
- Group deliberated on current levels of DE and revenue and risks associated with unsure future receipts.
- Group agreed to allow colleges to utilize DE funds consistent with the memo circulated from the DE Committee to SVC Hynes about using DE funds for tenure accruing lines.

**1.2 Technology Fee – Lanyce Keel**

- Discussion about tech fee project proposal process. Keel asked for the possibility of holding \$100,000 back from the fund to help with Graduate Studies and International Studies with the SIS project to do business analysis.

**1.3 AQIP Systems Portfolio Update – Steve Bullock**

- Good news that we have no accreditation issues
- Appraisal identified Strengths and Opportunities
- Thematic Opportunities materialize into Strategic Issues, which are summarized in handout. We predicted with nearly 100% accuracy what was going to be highlighted.

#### **1.4 General Education Update – Deb Smith-Howell**

- Smith-Howell discussed some of the history of General Ed and the activities of the Action Project.
- Some discussion about complexity of our current Gen Ed distribution requirements and general timelines.
- General agreement that we should move forward on this as quickly as possible.

#### **1.5 Degree credit hour requirements**

- Discussion about the appropriate procedures for reducing credit hours for some degrees
- Suggestion of going to Faculty Senate to get further input
- Discussion about how the structure of planning degrees will proceed with any change in general education
- General agreement that SVC Hynes should approach EPAC and Faculty Senate Executive Committee about consideration of potential of revising degrees to a *minimum* of 120 hours

### **2. Old Business**

- **Budget – Handout on potential budget cut scenarios**
- **Student Fees**
  - Some concern about specific fees proposed by our campus by President Milliken
  - Most of our proposed fees should be safe outside of our academic center proposals

### **3. Just Good Stuff**