Deans’ Forum Summary, July 3, 2014

UNO Office of Academic and Student Affairs

University of Nebraska at Omaha
DEANS' FORUM SUMMARY
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- Marty Habrock, Director, Financial Support & Scholarships offered a brief presentation related to a recent reorganization. Information regarding advising and financial aid packaging was offered.

- Lanyce Keel and guests discussed the work of the Virtual Transfer Center Committee. She reported that there is a statewide need for four-year institution’s to partner with two-year programs to support the transition from associate to bachelor pathways for prospective students.
  - Recommendations were made:
    - To consider what new degrees might be possible given existing programs
    - To consider how distance education may play a role in those offerings
  - A discussion followed concerning efficiencies to UNO’s advising structure and relationships between units.

- The Summary for May 1, 2014 meeting was approved.

- A request for approval was provided by D. Smith-Howell regarding the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media’s proposal for a 3 school model (i.e., School of the Arts, School of Music, and School of Communication).
  - The Dean’s voted and offered support for the proposal.

- D. Smith-Howell provided an update regarding graduate enrollment.
  - Graduate applications for summer 2014 were up 11%.
  - Admissions were up 7%.
  - Tentative data for fall 2014 indicates a 24% increase of enrolled graduate students.

- P. Morrice and D. Shipp provided an update regarding overall campus enrollment.
  - UNO headcount totals (undergraduate) for fall 2014 is down 5%. However, first-year, second-year and junior-year retention is up. A focus has been placed on retaining students returning for the senior year. A summary of orientation, advising and referral processes were offered.

- T. Gouttierre commented the dissemination of salary increases via Firefly, diminishes the opportunity for personal interaction that faculty and staff have traditionally valued.

- A request for approval of Master of Arts in Critical and Creative Thinking (planned as an online degree) was offered by D. Smith-Howell and D. Booeker. **The Deans voted and supported advancing the proposal.**

- D. Smith-Howell requested support for a minor in Entrepreneurship for Non-Business Majors. **Deans voted and supported advancement of the minor.**

- Reporting items by D. Smith Howell.
  - Approval of College of Business Administration, Native American Studies, and Public Health courses to be included in the Bachelor of Science in Emergency Management Degree.
  - Four new concentrations in Elementary Education (ELED) are approved (i.e., ESL, Inclusive Practices, School Library and STEM).
  - Major in Community Health is being discontinued.
  - Approval of a 4 +1 program in Political Science.

- T. Gouttierre provided a report on activities related to International Studies.

- B.J. Reed thanked Dr. P. Morrice for his service and wished him well as he has accepted another outside position.