

Graduate Deans' Group
Thursday, January 13, 2011, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
Graduate School Conference Room

Attending:

Mary Albrecht, Chris Boake, Ernest Brothers, Joy DeSensi (Chair), David Dupper for Cynthia Rocha, Michael Essington, Tom George, Mary Gunther, Yvonne Kilpatrick, Tom Ladd, Jan Lee, Catherine Luther, Michael McEntee, Stefanie Ohnesorg, Masood Parang, Carol Parker, Kay Reed.

The Graduate Deans' Group meeting was called to order by Joy DeSensi, on Thursday, January 13, 2011, at 2:00 p.m. in the Graduate School Conference Room.

1. The minutes of the Graduate Deans' Group meeting from October 14, 2010 were approved.
2. Top 25 Planning and Implementing Taskforces Update

Mary Albrecht, Vice Chancellor and Project Director, shared the following information:

- The Top 25 Strategic Plan is expected to take 10 years to complete.
- The Advisory Group consisting of the original Top 25 Task Force members with a few changes in membership will be overseeing the various task force committees.
- The task force committees and chairs are:
 - Undergraduate – Sally McMillan
 - Research – Wes Hines
 - Faculty – Sarah Gardial
 - Graduate Education – Carolyn Hodges
 - Staff – Mike Herbstritt
- Chairs of the committees meet regularly to share information.
- Graduate Plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees in February.
- The complete Top 25 Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board of Trustees in June.

3. Distance Education Policy

The distance education policy appears in the Graduate Catalog. Kay Reed, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, stated that if a existing program offers distance education, it needs to be described in the Graduate Catalog. If it is a new major or degree, it will need to go to THEC for approval.

4. College Diversity Recruitment Initiatives

The following colleges shared their diversity recruitment initiatives:

Nursing

- Appointed Mary Gunther to serve as Director of Graduate Studies
- Linked with historical black colleges and universities

Business Administration

- Hired Tyvi Small as a coordinator of diversity. Established a chapter of Black Accountants which links students to other parts of the university or other colleges.
- PhD project recruits doctoral level instructors from African-American, Native American or Hispanic backgrounds. They go to businesses and invite high level business men and women to attend the conference in hopes of recruiting them to college teaching. Research is a major part of the plan. It has been very successful in the workplace. The college must provide assistantships.

Law

- Students and faculty members attend job fairs, conferences, etc.
- Law firms assist in recruiting students
- Current students are sent to recruit.
- Retention numbers are an important tool in recruitment.

Education, Health and Human Sciences

- Since 1985 the college has had a recruiter of minorities and retention, and it has been expanded to include all under-represented groups.
- Churches, schools, etc. are great resources for recruiting students.
- Donors help fund recruitment and student expenses.

Communications

- Linked with historically black colleges.

Arts and Sciences

- Hanes-Morris Fund was established for a seminar series used to recruit students while they are on campus for the seminars.
- Mayhew Funds are used for international travel for graduate students.

Social Work

- Public Social Services are used to recruit students.

Engineering

- Hired a recruiter
- Part of the faculty's role is linking with Ph.D. students.
- GRE Score list is used as it is a good way to select engineering students.
- Students are brought to campus for a visitation.
- Supplement student stipends.

Office of Training and Mentorship

Dr. Ernest Brothers, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School, noted the following:

- Collaborations are being established with other universities and colleges.
- Everyone is a recruiter, staff, faculty, and students.
- Communication between colleges and the Office of Training and Mentorship is being established.
- Customizing seminars to college's requests.
- GEM
- ORNL

The next Graduate Deans' Group meeting will be on Thursday, February 10, 2011, 2:00 – 3:30 in the Graduate School Conference Room.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gay Henegar
Secretary to Graduate Deans' Group