

Council of Chairs and Directors  
General Meeting  
Nov. 7, 2018  
1-2:30 p.m., SSB 400

Present: Layton Seth Curl, Greg Clifton, Ruth Ann Nyhus, Ted Shin, K. Scherrer (for Jess Retrum), Robert Hazan, Kathy Heyl, Terry Buxton, Rebecca Gorman O'Neill, Ramon Del Castillo, Melissa Monson, Douglas Mpondi, Jeff Helton, Mingli He, Ford Lux, Scott Lubinski, Dan Lair, Deanne Pytlinski, Shaun Schafer, Andrew Bonham, Deborah Horan, Henry Jackson, Annie Butler, Lindsay Packer, Jamie Harris, Jim Drake, Kat Martinez

Guests: President Janine Davidson, Cynthia Ippoliti, Thomas Ragland, Elise Krumholz

Meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. by President Layton Seth Curl

- I. Introductions
- II. Input from COCD on reorganization
  - a. The President was available for 30 minutes to discuss the proposed reorganization of academic units.
  - b. A chair opened discussion with reference to plans being floated to move MSU Denver from NCAA Division II athletics to Division I athletics. The President said this item was not even on her list of things to do, sounded expensive, but would be considered if it might benefit the university.
  - c. Discussion then turned to the cost of education and the university's attempts to define that number.
  - d. This was followed by specific questions on why academic units might be reorganized, as presented during the ASA meeting with the Provost in September.
  - e. On the external issues related to the reorganization, the President said there are outside constituents who look to engage with the university, but cannot find the contact point they are seeking. Also, there are naming rights to consider that may arise with a reorganization.
  - f. A chair responded that it should be possible to redirect donors to specific realms in the institution.
  - g. Another chair expressed concern that the reorganization might leave some programs within departments in new colleges where they lack any synergy. The President stated that this possibility is why the move has been a deliberate process.
  - h. The President asked council members what they liked about the current system. Chairs supported the existing models and the relationships within that model, the synergy that comes from the current organization, and the potential for interdisciplinary work.

- i. One chair also expressed the concern that some of the smaller departments that make the institution unique could go down the drain if relocated into a small college that won't attract donors.
  - j. Chairs also noted that our discussion has not pointed to a deficiency in the current system, that some departments were happy with the status quo, that faculty weren't sure how to respond because possible outcomes were still unclear, and that there was a fear among collaborative departments that they would get siloed and be unable to work internally and externally.
  - k. A chair also asked if the reorganization would look much more different if departments could self select their neighbors. Another chair asked how reorganization would improve student retention.
  - l. The President closed by noting that the university is too poor for any reckless action to be taken, and that the only way to predict the future would be to make it.
- III. Auraria Library
- a. Cynthia Ippoliti is the new director of the library. She has been on the job for four months and came by to introduce herself.
  - b. A chair asked if she would be amenable to revisiting the MOU with the library regarding the storage of MSU Denver archives. She said she would, but that any action would also have to consider the other two entities that use the library.
- IV. Student Conflict Resolution Services
- a. Thomas Ragland and Elise Krumholz provided introductions and a short overview on student conflict resolution.
  - b. CARE reports, harassment, sexual harassment, code of conduct, and Title IX violations were among the topics covered.
  - c. CARE team "red folders" were also distributed to the group.
- V. Online course development policy
- a. Curl explained that Matt Griswold would attend the February meeting to discuss this policy. The policy is currently being reviewed after legal counsel produced a new intellectual property policy.
  - b. Expect to see Griswold armed with answers on Feb. 6, 2019.
- VI. Announcements
- a. Annie Butler agreed to represent the COCD on the search for an Associate Vice President of Human Resources. This position replaces the previous director of human resources.
  - b. Lindsay Packer agreed to represent the COCD on the Roadways Peer Mentoring Program Steering Committee. Packer agreed to serve until the end of his tenure as chair in Spring 2019.
  - c. Curl reported from the President's Cabinet meeting earlier in the day that the advisory councils would be continuing, but that COCD members should be aware that they may be tapped as new council leads.
  - d. In addition, Braelin Pantel has proposed creation of a landing page within student affairs on who the department chairs are and what they do. The planned page will be vetted by the COCD before going live.

- e. Jeff Helton reported from the budget task force the concerns about the fate of summer revenue sharing. He also reported that any costs of reorganization would go through the budget task force.
  - f. Additionally, a chair expressed concern about the hiring of an AVP of Human Resources, specifically that this could then lead to the hiring of a director and ancillary staff, thus creating multiple positions where one had been sufficient.
  - g. Finally, Curl announced that he would be stepping down as the president of the COCD, effective Jan. 1, 2019. Shaun Schafer would be taking over as president then, with Andrew Bonham as vice president and Rebecca Gorman O’Neill as secretary.
- VII. Meetings for 2019
- a. Wed., Feb. 6, 2019, 1-2:30 p.m.
  - b. Wed., March 13, 2019, 1-2:30 p.m.
  - c. Wed., April 10, 2019, 1-2:30 p.m.
- VIII. Adjourned at 2:14 p.m.