

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
School Council
November 1, 2011
10:30 – 12:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

J. Bray, D. Coker-Kolo, M. Snyder, J. Ward, C. Anthony, H. Tuleya-Payne, E. Rohena, D. Keefer, B. Havercamp

Review of Notes

The notes from October 18, 2011 were reviewed and approved as written.

Reminders and Events

- **Ali Zaidi Award Reminder.** Dr. Bray reminded the Departments to identify students to apply for this prestigious award. She would like Chairs to inform her with the names of the students who are being recommended. Materials are due by November 8th.
- Department Chairs were encouraged to attend and inform others about the upcoming **Senate Appropriations Hearings**, scheduled for Thursday November 3rd.
- A new Marauder statue was unveiled last weekend during **Homecoming** festivities.
- **November 15: SPA preparation.** Chairs and chief compilers will be invited to a meeting to discuss how they will be supported through this process.
- **December 6: Data Day.** New Assessment Coordinator Janet White will present and discuss findings.

Transformation Action Fair

The Dean reminded council members about the Transformation Action Fair scheduled for the afternoon of November 1st. Chairs mentioned that this was not the best choice for date due to advising, promotion timeline, etc. Many don't know what this is all about. Much discussion ensued. One hot topic was whether University should focus on the quality of our programs or on offering a quick turnaround for students to obtain certification. New charter schools and online universities are offering accelerated programs that confer some of the same degrees that we have.

Another topic discussed was how the liberal arts core in our programs is truly meaningful and very beneficial for helping our graduates to have well rounded educations; however, this focus leaves us behind when it comes to responding to the needs of regional employers. Should we not be focused on graduating students who will be valuable to employers?

The department of Applied Science, Engineering and Technology has made great strides toward being able to match up student learning and training with what business and industry looks for when hiring. The department utilizes advisory boards to bridge the gap between academia and the business world.

Diversity Plan

Dr. Coker-Kolo distributed a compiled listing of retention initiatives that had been provided by Dr. Will Redmond. The Chairs asked about the outcome from last year when each was asked to provide two initiatives for retention for the Provost. They would like to receive follow up information.

The Chairs and Associate Dean discussed the importance of incorporating diversity into our curriculum, rather than viewing it as a separate entity. Dr. Ward suggested using the NCATE standard as a framework, analyze what we are doing now, and look for ways to improve. All agreed that it was important to not just set arbitrary goals.

The Diversity Plan for the School of Education will be returned to the School Council agenda for further discussion in the future.

(Dr. Keefer was excused from the meeting at this point, as remaining items were focused on Teacher Education)

NCTQ Right to Know request

The National Council for Teacher Quality has filed a Right to Know request for information related to our Early Childhood and Secondary Education programs. Millersville University has 30 days to comply with the request. Dr. Bray has put together a team to gather the information; team members will contact Department Chairs if there is a need for any information from faculty.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.