



Academic Affairs Leadership Team

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Submitted by Kim Burns

Attendees: Mike Hearn, Mary Farrell, Nancy Julin, Donna Bertolino, Kelly Sullivan, Grace Young, Kim Burns, Diane Zold-Gross, Dawna Perez, Carolyn Knoepfler, Bill Heineman, Judy Zubrow, Sharon McDermot

1. **AP courses:** Governor Baker announced concern over the lack of available STEM workers. As a result, low-income students in AP courses will have the AP course fees paid for. Our AP policies and procedures need to be placed on the college's website after appropriately vetted by faculty. AP courses are listed on transcripts as transfer credit. Tweaks to the form were discussed.
2. **Application for critical thinking course designation:** Faculty teaching critical thinking courses must apply once a year. The Core Academic Skills Committee should review applications for consistency and standardization. The critical thinking designation should be on the syllabus so students know of the expectation of developing critical thinking skills. Faculty with a critical thinking course should participate in institutional assessments, which is currently not the case. Judy has a meeting scheduled with Amy Callahan and Suzanne Van Wert. Bill and Judy will meet with Linda Giampa to address concerns or objections. The critical thinking designation is in the Day Faculty Contract and not the DCE contract.
3. **IT Master Plan:** The plan is making its way around for approval. Mike Hearn did a nice job elevating the quality of the plan. When it is distributed, review it. Our version of Banner is changing next year which will require training and have an impact on super users. The changes look like they are positive.
4. **FY18 Budget:** The Vice Presidents are working on closing the gap between projected revenue and projected expenses. The current budget assumes a 5% decrease in enrollments. At the state level, tax receipts are down which will reverberate into the FY18 state budget which may result in the state appropriation being lower than originally anticipated. Courses that usually fill up are not filling as quickly. TAPSS faculty are meeting with new students, other faculty are engaged in recruitment activities. High school numbers (dual enrollment) should help. On May 17 the Health Careers division is having a One-Stop event.
5. **AALT Retreat:** Please read the article emailed to you to prepare for the retreat. We will spend time on the master schedule, which will need to be addressed now for 2018-2019. Send hopes and expectations for the schedule to Bill and he will tailor the retreat to address our needs.