February 23, 2012

TO: Provost’s Council

FROM: Judith M. Bowman
        Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Studies

SUBJ: Provost’s Council Agenda for Tuesday, February 28, 2012

The Provost’s Council will meet on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. The following agenda items will be discussed.

1. Approval of the February 14 minutes (see attachment, p.

2. QEP update and strategy
   Mona Danner and Worth Pickering

3. General Education Assessment (see attachment, Worth Pickering

4. Salary Compression (see attachment, 

5. SACS Visit – April 15-20

6. Adjunct Faculty Development at Old Dominion (see attachment, 

7. Discussion of Criteria for University Professors (see attachment, 

8. Faculty Senate Issue 2011/12-10, Proposed Changes to the Policy on Full Time Faculty (Full Time Faculty as a Degree Candidate) (see attachment, p.

9. Faculty Senate 2011/12-13, Proposal for a Revision to the Adjusted Credit (ARC) (see attachment, p.


11. Announcements
The Provost’s Council met on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. Those present were Carol Simpson (Chair), Debbie Bauman, Oktay Baysal, Andy Casiello, Mona Danner, Chandra de Silva, Jim Duffy, Gwen Lee-Thomas, Brenda Lewis, David Metzger, Ginny O’Herron, Renee Olander, Worth Pickering, Chris Platsoucas, Charles Wilson, and Gil Yochum. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The February 14 minutes were approved.

2. QEP Update and Strategy

Mona Danner and Worth Pickering provided an update on the University’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) on Improving Disciplinary Writing. They distributed the QEP document that was submitted to SACS and the QEP Marketing Plan. The QEP is intended to improve upper-division undergraduate students’ disciplinary writing – that is, writing that demonstrates a reasoning process supported by research and reflection on a problem, topic or issue – through two faculty development and engagement initiatives. The two faculty initiatives are (1) Faculty Workshops designed to teach faculty the techniques identified as the best practices to teach and assess writing, and (2) Action Projects designed to encourage academic programs to develop and implement best practices to improve writing.

Dr. Danner and Dr. Pickering asked the Deans for help with the following:
- Time at an upcoming Chairs and Directors/Dean’s Council meeting
- Support for time at department meetings when possible
- Names of two senior faculty in each department in the college who may generally be counted on to participate in the QEP in one way or another. The names should be submitted to Dr. Danner by Friday, March 9.

3. General Education Assessment

Worth Pickering provided information on the assessment of general education as required by SACS and the SCHEV guidelines for assessment of student learning. Old Dominion is using the VALUE (Valid Assessment of Learning in Undergraduate Education) rubrics, published in 2009 as part of the Liberal Education & America’s Promise (LEAP) initiative by the Associate of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U).

General education assessment is on a four-year cycle so each general education competency is assessed every four years. Each year, the University will
simultaneously be planning several general education assessments, assessing several other general education goals, reporting/improving several other general education goals, and implementing the improvements. Dr. Pickering distributed the timeline, which shows the assessment cycle for each of the general education areas.

Carol Simpson made the Deans aware of the general education report commissioned by the Beazley Foundation and noted she will also be briefing the Board of Visitors.

4. Planning Compression Adjustments for 2012

Chandra de Silva discussed the draft document on planning compression adjustments for 2012. The University is committed to funding the remaining 50% from the 2011 within rank and discipline compression adjustment, subject to the availability of funds. The cost will be less than $600,000. Seventeen faculty did not receive a compression adjustment in 2011 because the amount of their adjustment was less than $2,000. The Deans agreed that these adjustments should be made in the 2012 compression cycle. The maximum adjustment amount in 2011 was $10,000, which affected 19 faculty members. The Deans agreed that the $10,000 maximum should remain in place and no further adjustments made for this group. Chris Platsoucas asked that faculty recently promoted to associate professor be reviewed for possible compression adjustments.

The next step is to develop a process for compression across ranks for 2012. Carol Simpson asked the Deans to continue to think about what the process should be for 2012. She also asked the Deans to look at faculty in each department to determine if the pay of individual faculty members is at the appropriate level.

5. SACS Visit – April 15-20

This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

6. Adjunct Faculty Development at Old Dominion

Chandra de Silva asked the Deans to review the agenda attachment on adjunct faculty development and to discuss the new steps suggested for possible implementation in their colleges. The new steps are suggested to better integrate adjuncts to the University community and open new opportunities for them.

7. Discussion of Criteria for University Professors

This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.
8. Faculty Senate Issue 2011/12-10, Proposed Changes to the Policy on Full Time Faculty (Full Time Faculty as a Degree Candidate)
   
   This issue was not discussed and has now been approved by President Broderick.

9. Faculty Senate 2011/12-13, Proposal for a Revision to the Adjusted Credit (ARC)
   
   This issue was not discussed and has now been approved by President Broderick.

10. Faculty Senate Issue 2011/12-15, Proposal for a New Minor in Chinese Studies
    
   This issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

11. Announcements

   A. Judy Bowman reminded Council members that Graduate Research Achievement Day will be held April 19 in Webb Center.