March 23, 2012

TO: Provost’s Council

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

SUBJ: Provost’s Council for Tuesday, March 27, 2012

The Provost’s Council will meet on Tuesday, March 27 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 March 13 minutes (see attachment, p. 1-2)

2. SACS On-Site Visit (see attachment, p. 3-6)

3. Proposed Revisions to the Policy on University Professors (see attachment, p. 7-8)

4. Proposal for Faculty of Practice (see attachment, p. 9-10)

5. Proposed Revision to the Policy on Tenure to Change the Date Designated for Board Approval from April 15 to a Later Date (see attachment, p. 11-12)

6. Announcements

   A. Data Management Plan Task Force
   B. Frederic W. Ness Book Award (see attachment, p. 13)
The Provost’s Council met on Tuesday, March 27 from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in Koch Hall. Those present were Carol Simpson (Chair), M’Hammed Abdous, Oktay Baysal, Paul Champagne, Chandra de Silva, Linda Irwin-DeVitis, Gwen Lee-Thomas, Brenda Lewis, David Metzger, Shelley Mishoe, Ginny O’Herron, Renee Olander, Chris Platsoucas, Charles Wilson, and Gil Yochum. The following agenda items were discussed.

1. The March 13 minutes were approved.

2. SACS On-Site Visit

   The schedule for the SACSCOC Reaffirmation Committee’s visit was included with the agenda. Carol Simpson reminded the deans to have someone available on April 17 and 18 to greet and direct Committee members who may want to review faculty records. She also asked the deans to review faculty files again to be sure they are complete. Chandra de Silva asked Council members to be informed about the QEP; the deans were asked to make department chairs and faculty aware of the QEP.

   Dr. Simpson will consult with Marty Sharpe to see if there are questions from the visiting Committee members that can be addressed prior to their visit.

3. Proposed Revisions to the Policy on University Professors

   Council members discussed the proposed revisions to the Policy on University Professors. Each of the deans expressed the opinion of their faculty on the proposed revisions. There was general agreement on the revision to expand the policy to include the teaching of graduate courses as well as undergraduate courses. There was not consensus on including all full-time faculty instead of restricting the designation to tenured faculty. As a result, the deans felt the designation should remain University Professor and not be changed to University Distinguished Teacher.

   Chandra de Silva will revise the document based on the discussion, and the proposed changes will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for review. Carol Simpson asked Dr. de Silva to draft a proposal for a University Distinguished Educator Award that would recognize full-time, non-tenured faculty members for their teaching. The proposal will be considered at a future meeting.
4. Proposal for Faculty of Practice

Chandra de Silva reported that he met with Committee G of the Faculty Senate to discuss the proposal for Faculty of Practice. They felt Faculty of Practice should not be eligible for promotion and were concerned that creation of this category could become a path for those who do not achieve tenure. They also discussed whether there should be a limit on the number of positions for Faculty of Practice. Committee G will continue their discussion of the proposal and make a recommendation to the full Senate.

5. Proposed Revision to the Policy on Tenure to Change the Date Designated for Board Approval from April 15 to a Later Date

Carol Simpson discussed the possibility of changing the date designated for the Board of Visitors to approve candidates for tenure from April 15 to a later date in April. The change is proposed so that the April Board of Visitors meeting could be moved to later in the month. In addition to tenure, a main focus of the April meeting is approval of tuition and fees. This can be difficult to accomplish in time to meet the April 15 deadline for tenure in years when the General Assembly has not yet approved a budget for the Commonwealth.

Council members supported changing the date for Board approval of tenure from April 15 to April 30. The proposed change, along with changes in subsequent dates contained in the Policy on Tenure, will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for review.

6. Faculty Senate Issue 2011/12-18 Continuance Policy

Council members approved the recommendation from the Faculty Senate for revisions to the undergraduate continuance policy. Current policy states that students are no longer eligible to attend Old Dominion after a second suspension. The change would require a five-year separation for students suspended a second time and allow them to apply for readmission after the five-year separation. A student suspended for a third time would not be eligible to return. The recommendation will be forwarded to President Broderick.

7. Policy for Department Chair Evaluation

Carol Simpson distributed the Policy for Department Chair Evaluation and reminded the deans of the reappointment process that should be conducted no longer than the spring semester of the third year of the chair’s term.

8. Graduate Enrollment

Carol Simpson distributed a handout showing graduate enrollment numbers by program for each college to the respective dean. She noted that graduate
enrollment has declined in almost all colleges, especially in the non-degree category. She asked the deans to review the data carefully, determine areas of decline and strategies to increase enrollment, and prepare an overall strategy for graduate enrollment in their college.

9. Announcements

A. Carol Simpson informed the deans that she is forming a task force to look at the Data Management Plan and associated policies. George Fowler from the Perry Library is chairing the task force, which will develop recommendations for consideration by the Provost’s Council.

B. Information on the Frederic W. Ness Book Award was included with the agenda. Carol Simpson encouraged the deans to submit nominations.