UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT

Council of Deans Meeting
Thursday, February 12, 2015
3:00 p.m. – Shiawassee Room

~ Minutes ~

Members Present:  Barbara Dixon, Scott Johnson, Vahid Lotfi, Keith Moreland, and Albert Price

Members Absent:  Bob Barnett and Chris Waters

Interim Provost Dixon called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from January 22 and January 29, 2015  The Minutes of January 22 and January 29, 2015 were approved as written.

Protocol for Information Flow  Barbara reviewed general protocol with the Deans in terms of submitting information to other units, i.e. budget information. Discussion included the process of how requested budget information was handled in each unit and whether chairs/directors were made aware of the budget priorities submitted. She wanted to make sure that they keep her informed when appropriate and she assured them they she would do the same. Regarding the budget information that was just requested by Greg Tewksbury, the Deans operate in much the same way in that they prioritize needs at the dean level and/or with the help of their executive committees prior to submitting. There was somewhat of a hesitation on the part of the deans regarding sharing decided priorities to departments/faculty because they indicated that the amount of money that they may receive is normally not significant; there is sometimes a lack of knowledge on the part of chairs/directors regarding the budget; and most of their requests are not filled. After much discussion there was a general consensus that perhaps a good idea would be to provide chairs/directors some additional budget training.

Vahid indicated that we do not have an Academic Plan and thought that perhaps we could work on developing a framework to create one. Barbara indicated that she and the Chancellor talked about an Academic Plan. She is trying to get a handle on the entire look of the University. She said that right now, without a formal Plan, the budget is the plan.

Barbara mentioned that if faculty requests come to her desk she will be sure to keep the deans informed and in the loop.

Marketing  Barbara indicated that the Chancellor is putting a hold on all new marketing until we review the University brand. She clarified by saying that this does not include ongoing marketing that needs to continue, but rather, any new initiatives. Albert mentioned that CAS is suffering from a lack of identity and are very desperate in wanting to mount a marketing plan but right how it is on hold.
**Fundraising** ▶ Barbara said that she is just passing on a friendly reminder that before anyone makes an ask for funding, that Development should be contacted. All asks need to be vetted through the Development Office. Keith indicated that we need to be careful how to relay that message to faculty so as to not discourage “friend-raising”.

**Searches** ▶ Barbara reminded Deans that should they desire to hire an associate professor or higher, that those requests must be approved by the Provost Office prior to a search. In addition, those types of hires must also be approved by the Regents.

**Other** ▶ Scott announced that the School of Management is working on establishing two or three departments within their unit. Formalization of the framework should conclude soon.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.