Interim Provost Dixon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Graduation Support Program** ➤ Aimi reminded the Council that she garnered their support when she addressed them about a year ago regarding the inception of what was then called the Graduation Intervention Program in an effort to raising the graduation rate. She said that since then she has moved forward with that initiative but is since called the Graduation Support Program. She explained that initially they began with the Fall 2009 cohort of students which would be the first group studied that would count as having completed their degree within six years. She reported that all academic units are working with their office in this effort. She disseminated a graph showing how the students have been identified and categorized for tracking purposes which included: Registered for Fall 14; Financial Aid Terminated; AR Hold; and Active, but not Registered for Fall 14.

Aimi explained that there are seven phases to the intervention with the first phase of identifying a plan for each student and having the departments review each plan and provide their approval. They look at everything about that student including academic success at the high school level, where they are academically in terms of grades and credit hours completed, etc. to identify what kind of intervention may be needed. She noted that beginning last fall, more emphasis was given in Student Orientation in helping students understand the importance and benefits for graduating in four years and they are refining that presentation even more. Aimi indicated that since this program will be ongoing, her staff has developed software that is less labor intensive in gathering information and will provide them the ability to run all kinds of reports. She said that eventually she would like to make this software available to every department so they have access as well.

Multiple questions were asked by the Council, including how are financial problems handled. Aimi indicated that her office works very closely with Financial Aid and explained that when it might be a situation where the student is in his/her last semester and has run out of financial options, Mary Jo Sekelsky and Lori Vedder work together to find a solution. Aimi reported that the best predictor of student success is past academic performance in high school. She said that Degree Works will eventually replace the software but that might take 4-5 years until it cycles through. Aimi reported that after the first year, they have seen the retention rate increased by 3% and closed by saying that she was very hopeful that increases will continue.
Approval of Minutes from May 12, 2015 ► The Minutes of May 12, 2015 were approved as written.

Update on Dean Searches ► Barbara reported that the CAS Dean Search has been postponed because they did not have a robust enough of a pool for airport interviews. She also indicated that this would provide the new provost direct input in giving direction for proceeding with this search and also the SHPS Dean Search. Barbara indicated that it would not be out of the question to secure a dean to begin in January. Much discussion took place.

Update on Program Review ► Barbara reported that following a presentation that Chris provided to AAAC regarding undergraduate program review, Barbara suggested to AAAC that external reviews for non-accredited programs might be a good discussion. She indicated that there are all kinds of advantages for implementing this kind of guideline. For instance, the external review could be an advocate for a department that may be struggling to make changes; it may also encourage departments to take program review more seriously, etc. Following several meetings, AAAC made a recommendation for the implementation of external reviews for non-accredited programs on a 10-year rotation. After much discussion, the consensus of the Council was that seven years would be reasonable and could provide some consistency.

Barbara indicated that external reviewers would probably include senior faculty members and that the external reviewers should be from similar size programs versus a large Research 1 institution. The Departments could recommend 5-6 people to select from and reviews are normally one-day rather than a two or three-day site visit. You may want one reviewer or two reviewers that do a joint report. Some questions that you may want to ask external reviewers to provide input might be: two or three suggested improvements that include cost; two or three suggested improvements that do not include cost; and/or a list of things that the reviewed department is doing well.

Chris indicated that the Undergraduate Guidelines for Program Review would need to be revised and a rotating schedule would have to be developed.

Transitions ► Barbara said that as she is winding things up, she asked for input regarding what are the most important needs that should be addressed as the new Provost comes on board. Two suggestions were made: deciding on the School of Nursing issue; and the organization within academic affairs.

Other – University Outreach ► Barbara announced that Jacob Blumner requested to go back to the faculty as of July 1, 2015. Discussion took place regarding realignment of programs, what do we want Outreach to be; what initiatives are working very well, etc. There was consensus that the department needs to be faculty driven and also that the Department continues with some changes. Barbara asked the Council to send her any faculty names that may be interested in an interim appointment for a year.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.