Doug called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He announced that Sue Alcock will be invited back to a future Council of Deans Meeting to provide feedback of the information that she has gathered in terms of partnerships.

Greet/Meet Gilia Smith, Special Advisor to the Provost ♦ In introducing Gilia to the Council, Doug indicated that although her title is Special Advisor to the Provost, she will be special advisor to all of the Council members. Gilia will be focusing on some things such as assessment, accreditation, and program review as we are moving toward reaccreditation; however, she will also have special projects, one such project right now is working with Susan in helping CAS. She should be viewed as an Academic Affairs resource.

Advising Within the College/Schools ♦ Barbara indicated that now that the Student Success Center is part of Student Affairs, she is asking Academic Affairs for their help regarding the advising component. She explained that there is an urgency in making sure that advisement is executed with all student orientations and she will be developing a concrete and consistent plan that can be implemented for each orientation. Barbara said that Aimi Moss will be pulling together a document of needs and she would welcome feedback from the Council. We want to make sure that all freshman and transfer students are advised and that we are making a deliberate effort in connecting students to the University. Barbara indicated that as student interests are identified, names will be sent to the units/departments so that departmental advising can take place as soon as possible.

Barbara asked the deans to identify a liaison person and backup faculty from each unit as well as any feedback that they may have in preparation for a meeting with her in the near future. Doug suggested that an Advising Council be pulled together to help with communication and to build a capacity level so that we are working effectively matched with increased enrollment levels. Suggestions for members of an Advising Council included the associate dean, lead faculty member, and advising staff from each unit. Scott explained that one problem for the schools is that students are advised via SSC the first two years and that they don’t begin advising them until year three. Early discipline-specified advising would provide the
students with an identity to their college/school. Bob B. added that one of the major components that make advising effective is a good and consistent “hand-off” plan. Donna indicated that her school needs help with students who, for instance, do not make the cut in Nursing. These students need to be advised on other options for them. Bob H. said that another important factor is for new students to understand the connection to someone in the Library and the resources that are available for them. Doug concluded by saying that in working on recruitment/retention, we need to get better at surrounding the students with care and concern from the University and at the same time making it somewhat of a challenge and responsibility for them as well.

Approval of Minutes – April 26, 2016 ♦ The Minutes of April 26, 2016 were approved as written.

Budget Options ♦ Christy disseminated a spreadsheet with four scenario budget model options. Jerry explained that they are exploring and studying other possible budget model options compared to the current one which was Method 1 on the handout and/or a combination thereof. Jerry reviewed the other three “methods” on the spreadsheet. One method included a form of redistributed funds based on need; another was based on a percentage of revenue targets, and the fourth on average budget surplus based on budget history of the unit. Several questions emerged. Vahid indicated that the primary criticism of the current budget model is that it does not appear equitable when it comes to the percentage of tuition revenue that each academic unit receives versus what it generates. He cautioned that if we do not address this issue, it will continue to generate faculty resentment. Jerry indicated that some of the problems with the current model resulted when the budget model changed coupled with the percentage growth that some units were able to take advantage of. Doug explained that Greg and Jerry are looking at a proposal to take back to CAC/BSP and would like the input of the deans.

Space Presentation ♦ Vahid disseminated a draft Report of the Ad Hoc Committee to Allocate North Tower Building and Associated Spaces. He proceeded to provide an abbreviated PowerPoint presentation to the Council highlighting specific points of the report. He said that members of the Committee include himself, Bob Houbeck, Stacy Lee, Larry King, and Mary Deibis. He explained that they reviewed 49 requests and that prior to beginning the task the Committee developed Guiding Principles which were used in each step of the process. Vahid said that they were sensitive to moving away from dedicated classroom and/or conference room space although a unit could be given priority for that space. Other guidelines included data sources, methodology, and growth. Vahid said that the Ad Hoc Committee’s task was primarily to provide recommendations for Floors 3-8. He indicated that he would welcome feedback from the Council identifying any gaps that they may see and said that the process will be lengthy extending for approximately two years prior to the move. Eventually, an engineer and architect will need to be hired.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.