

**COUNCIL OF
DIRECTORS OF STUDENT ACADEMIC SERVICES**

MINUTES

**October 21, 2020
Zoom
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

In attendance: Laurie Beets, Chris Bingham, Amanda Benn, Larry Burns, Brenda Dawes, Leslie Evans, Kathryn Gage, Amy Gazaway, Ebonie Hill, Nick Holmes, Diane Jones, Jason Kirksey, Cheryl Kleeman, James Knecht, Rae Ann Kruse, Amy Martindale, Marissa McIntyre, Marilyn Middlebrook, Lance Millis, Linda Millis, Beverly Morris, Libby Reigh, Vincent Rivera, Kyndal Roark, Sky Rogers, Kristi Seuhs, Richard Shepard, Candace Thrasher, Deb VanOverbeke, Diana Watkins, Denise Weaver, Robin Wilson and Jeanette Mendez, Chair.

1. Student Diversity Module – Jason Kirksey

- 2015 Student Government Association (SGA) passed a requirement that all faculty and staff participate in diversity inclusion training. Also, Title VII and Title IX training was updated.
- 2017 SGA passed a recommendation for all first-year students to complete a diversity and inclusion workshop.
- 2018 SGA created a policy for all students to complete a diversity and inclusion workshop.
- 2020 OSU created a diversity and inclusion module.
 - This is not an Institutional Diversity initiative; this is an OSU initiative. This initiative is about awareness and education. This is an opportunity to strengthen and sustain our commitment to diversity and inclusion.
 - Students are required to take the workshop during their first semester at OSU (all campuses included). Otherwise a hold will be placed on the student's account.
 - There was discussion regarding building this module into incoming freshmen, transfer and graduate orientation

2. NOC/OSU Enrollment – Diana Watkins, VP NOC Stillwater

Changes are happening at Northern Oklahoma College (NOC) with the new enrollment management system that is going live November 2. The website will provide a link where OSU students can select the OSU student enrollment form and enter the permit information if they are taking a math class, as well as a place to upload an unofficial OSU transcript and test scores. The completed form is directed to Sherryl Nelson and Diana Watkins. S. Nelson will review for registration clearance and will email students with NOC login and password. Students will be enrolled in a class but will not be registered for the class until pre-requisites are verified. Theoretically this will be a significant improvement across the board. An instruction sheet is being created for students. <https://www.noc.edu/students/future-students/apply/>

L. Beets added that parents have experienced confusion regarding students in the Gateway program vs. courses enrolled thru NOC online. NOC Online will not be billed through OSU Bursar's Office. Clarification is needed regarding the difference between a NOC STW course and the NOC Online course.

3. Spring Enrollment Communication Plan – Lance Millis

This semester both students and faculty have dealt with less than ideal class experiences. Faculty feel that students are not making the effort to attend classes. Faculty are going to great lengths to make sure that students receive the best experiences, accessing the information in as many ways as is helpful. Meanwhile the students feel that the experience would be better if they attended class via online but are failing to clearly communicate their reasoning to faculty. Faculty has been operating on a certain set of assumptions while the students have been operating on another.

Ideas to consider for messaging to students as we prepare for Spring 2021:

- Positive messaging is needed. Even though this semester has been very different and has caused lots of extra work from everyone – faculty and students included –we're making it!
- Students need direction as to what to do if things are not going well for them
- Communication to students and faculty is needed regarding attendance parameters
- Quarantine is not the same for all students – students waiting for results from test, students in contact with others

who are positive, students who test positive – flexibility is needed

- Midterm grades were consistent with other semesters in which students attended class face to face, even though students do not feel that they are learning adequately
- Plight of the students dealing with 3 or 4 different technologies per class
- Students scheduling work during class times
- Students creating their own Spring break because they can attend classes virtually
- Misunderstanding of Fall 2020 semester messaging stating that all classes would be offered online if a student was interested in that modality. The students' interpretation - all courses would be offered totally online
- Challenge with exams of in person classes - instructors of in person classes are not obligated to offer online exams
- Expectation of attendance of in person classes - some faculty may be able to make arrangements with students for some type of online offering
- Clarification and expectation of online class vs. hybrid vs. in class courses
- Messaging to faculty in preparation for Fall 2020 was very pointed – live streaming, in class, no attendance, no pop quizzes
- Messaging was recently submitted to faculty from the Provost Office in preparation for Spring 2021: *“For courses that are designed to be in person, both students and faculty benefit from in-person instruction, therefore we encourage students to attend classes whenever possible. Classes will be recorded, if possible, for viewing by students who have to miss due to illness, quarantine or other reasons, but livestreaming a class will be at the discretion of the faculty member. Instructors may require attendance for students who are not ill or have other legitimate reasons for not attending class for in person classes if they wish to do so.”*
- Small group led by J. Mendez and D. Hallenbeck was created to discuss the possibility of a mini festival for students, faculty and staff this spring

4. Spring 2021 International Students – Libby Reigh

- Three international students were able to take advantage of the fully online schedule
- Admissions will work with international students if travel restrictions exist from their home country
- DSAS members expressed concern that international students may not have travel restrictions, however they still wish to refrain from travel due to COVID
- Admissions will evaluate each student on a case-by-case basis, similar to Fall 2020

5. Scholarship Changes for 2020-2021 – Linda Millis

The Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is implementing major scholarship changes for the 2021-2022 school year for incoming students. These changes are being made due to students not being able to complete any official college admissions testing during COVID. The no test option allows for a student with an unweighted GPA of 3.25 to apply for scholarships through OSFA. For detailed information please visit the following links:

Out of State: <https://go.okstate.edu/scholarships-financial-aid/types-of-aid/scholarships-and-grants/freshman-scholarships/out-of-state-scholarships/index.html>

In State: <https://go.okstate.edu/scholarships-financial-aid/types-of-aid/scholarships-and-grants/freshman-scholarships/in-state-scholarships/index.html>

Scholarship opportunities exist for transfer students if they have completed 7-23 hours that are transferrable with a 3.25 GPA. These scholarships may be renewable for up to 3 years.

Students who wish to defer a semester should contact the OSFA where each case will be evaluated individually.

6. Student Veteran Success Coordinator Introduction – Cheryl Kleeman and Vincent Rivera

Vincent Rivera is the new student veteran success coordinator – coming from Western Nevada College. Along with working on his doctorate program here at OSU, V. Rivera is looking forward to getting to know his students and the positive in culture at OSU. He will be setting appointments with individual DSAS members to discuss how to best serve the veteran students.

7. 2019-20 Annual Report for Department of Transfer and Student Veteran Success – Cheryl Kleeman

During the September DSAS meeting C. Kleeman and R. Chandrashekar shared a transfer student presentation. The OSU transfer student statistics mentioned in the presentation were reviewed and are listed below:

- 17% of our student body is transfer students
- 86% of those transfer students are retained after their first year
- 64% of those transfer students graduated in 4 years and 70% in 6 years

- 68 members in our Transfer Student Honor Society
- Majority of Oklahoma transfer students transferred from TCC and NOC.

C. Kleeman detailed the strategic goals for the Transfer and Student Veteran Success program:

- Increase transfer and student veteran engagement through targeting learning and social activities
- Increase visibility and understanding of transfer and student veterans on our campus
- Implement the peer/mentor program for veteran and military affiliated students
- Increase visibility of the transfer pathway program and STEP initiative
- Increase funding
- Implement an academic support early alert model for both transfer and student veterans

C. Kleeman would like to discuss these goals with DSAS members individually and how her office can help support our students. Please contact C. Kleeman with any questions.

8. Other

- A draft of student attendance policy is being finalized for distribution.
- Pass / no pass petition was submitted to Faculty Council. A committee was created to investigate the possibility and when reviewing midterm grades, there was no difference in the grades from Fall 2019, and therefore no support for the petition. If there is a desire to express an opinion on this matter, contact Faculty Council. No other Oklahoma colleges / universities are entertaining the pass / no pass option.
- There was discussion on how to communicate effectively with our students so they get the information they need. There is a balance in We need to be cautious that we are not adding insult to injury in saying no to something they really wanted and still supporting them academically?
- B. Morris reported that OSU Tulsa has been involved in several activities with Tulsa Community College in honor of National Student Transfer Week. She thanked all DSAS members who have assisted her in these activities.
- R. Peaster reported that all freshmen general education courses are now specified in Banner as face to face / online for the Spring 2021 semester.
 - Some gened courses are offering one section online in consideration for faculty and students who wish to be completely online for the semester
 - Comp 2 course is entirely online. The Comp 1 course that went completely online for the Fall 2021 semester has been very successful.
- E. Hill reported that all new freshmen honors students will enroll on 11-9-20 at 9:01am. All other existing freshmen honor students and transfer freshmen honor students will enroll on 11-9-20 at 12:01am.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44am

Minutes recorded by K. Roark