Arts and Sciences Executive Committee

245 Patterson Office Tower

Thursday, February 14, 2019

9:00am – 10:00am

Dean’s Update on Our Path Forward

The Dean updated the group on the status of ‘Our Path Forward,’ (OPF) the university’s efforts to ‘create a long-term financial path for the University.’ The group learned about ideas to make university process and procurement more efficient and cost effective. Another key component of OPF is to increase student enrollment. University leadership expects to do this in several ways: 1) increase online course availability in the summer as well as the fall and spring semesters, 2) create new certificate programs 3) make it easier for non-degree students to enroll in courses and 4) use targeted recruitment methods and advertising to reach more students.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Associate Dean for Internationalization and Inclusion, Cristina Alcalde, shared her idea to create a Diversity and Inclusion Committee for the College. She envisions this committee will help manage initiatives, aid in student recruitment and faculty retention, etc. The organization of this committee would be added to the official college rules and the committee make up would be voted on in annual college elections. The Executive Committee asked that Dr. Alcalde draft the rule changes and share with the group at the next meeting for discussion prior to sharing with the faculty for a vote.

Faculty awards

Abbie Loynachan reminded the group that the faculty award winners for four categories are chosen by the Executive Committee. The nominations will be sent to the committee members for review. The Committee should review and rank the nominations and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting on March 28, 2019.

Other

The Dean informed the group that the College is creating an A&S scholars program that will automatically enroll students with an entering GPA of 3.5. Each department will run this program for their majors and the College expects to advertise the benefits of the program to include among other special programing: priority consideration for undergraduate research experiences; leadership opportunities; opportunities for academic and community engagement activities; priority placement in A&S Sponsored Living Learning Programs.