

Academic Update

November 7, 2016

Council of Academic Deans (COAD) meeting on November 7

1. Ethan Humphries, Assistant IT Director, met with the COAD to provide updates on IT changes being implemented. There was also a discussion of strategies for increasing campus bandwidth.
2. The fall commencement schedule for all public universities in Alabama was reviewed. UNA has the latest fall commencement in the state. Possible alternatives were discussed and pros and cons of changing it were offered.
3. The COAD discussed issues related to the submission of supplemental materials for tenure/promotion portfolios. Some faculty are submitting large amounts of material that exceed the storage capability of the system. Further discussion will occur on possible solutions.
4. The COAD discussed two submissions that were rejected by Faculty Senate. The first, curriculum development, would have required proposals for new majors to be discussed initially at the COAD level to avoid possible conflict among colleges. COAD decided not to pursue further action on the proposal. The second, fifteen hour teaching load, would have allowed departments to employ certain non tenure track faculty in teaching only roles based on specific needs of the department. COAD decided not to pursue further action on the proposal.
5. The COAD addressed several questions raised by the faculty affairs committee of Faculty Senate regarding the promotion/tenure draft. Clarification was needed on issues such as the timeline, prior experience, deferrals, and how evaluation will occur for faculty hired as associate and full professors.

Thanks

UNA enjoyed a very successful UNA night at First Friday and also Preview Day. Many academic departments and colleges participated. Thanks!

Dr. Tim Collins held a brown bag lunch for students and employees on the presidential election and the results of the UNA poll. The IR Office conducted the poll. Thanks!