Resource Policies and Allocations Council (RPA)

Agenda

Thursday, Feb. 4, 2021 (9:30 – 10:30 am) (WEBEX)
Meeting with Provost Wickert

I. Call to Order

II. Recap general items and agenda for Spring 2021 semester
   a. Long term strategies of ISU as a public institution of higher education
   b. Trends in enrollment, faculty composition, and financial models and funding
   c. How are our peer institutions and Iowa colleges faring during period of restructuring? How can we distinguish ourselves and complement broader changes among these institutions?

General topics for Discussion with RPA Council and Provost

1. **Resources and Policies** - decision-making and direction of institution
   a. budget decisions concerning salaries, benefits, RIOs, and other initiatives
   b. COVID stimulus package and ISU support (See DSM Register article on this aid)
   c. effects of shifting enrollment on departments and programs
   d. planning for post-COVID-19 at ISU (!)

2. **Communication and Faculty Morale**
   a. **Legislative issues** re: faculty tenure and general attitude towards higher education
   b. Recognize stress faculty are under with budget uncertainties and COVID-19
   c. Direct and effective messaging with faculty about concerns

3. **Faculty Involvement** – recommendations on how faculty can support the administration with above issues
   a. Input from Senators and faculty at large in decision-making
   b. Working with faculty at all levels
   c. Identify areas of growth and strength

This agenda was developed from conversations in recent RPA meetings, posted agendas, and email conversations with RPA colleagues. This is meant to be a forward-looking and productive agenda for our discussions, especially given the current budget situation, COVID-19 pandemic, and overall climate in higher education.

- Other items from the floor
- Adjournment

- On a somewhat ‘lighter note’, check out this faux pas from a university course taught by a faculty member who died in 2019 (!) And we thought we were in trouble!