

A Dean Working Group Report Fall 2022

Membership

Co-Chairs:

Jeff Tang, College of Integrated Science and Engineering
Traci Zimmerman, College of Arts and Letters

Members:

College of Arts and Letters

Melinda Adams
Karina Kline-Gabel
Sian White

College of Health and Behavioral Studies

Kevin Apple
BJ Bryson
Doug Hochstetler
Linda Plitt Donaldson

College of Business

Molly Brown
Kim Foreman
Scott Gallagher

College of Education

Oris Griffin
Amy Thelk
Bryan Zugelder

College of Science and Mathematics

Steven Whitmeyer
LouAnn Lovin

College of Visual and Performing Arts

Wren Stevens
Susan Zurbrigg

Honors College

Fawn-Amber Montoya
Felix Wang

Libraries

Andrea Adams
Bill Hartman
Stefanie Warlick-Burrow
Carolyn Schubert

School of Professional and Continuing Education

Carol Fleming
Sarah MacDonald

The Graduate School

Laura Ryman
Michael Stoloff

University Studies

Audrey Burnett
Scott Paulson

Charge:

The A-Dean Working Group (ADWG) is charged with providing faculty members working at the A-dean level the opportunity to share knowledge, collaborate to develop effective strategies for college/unit-assigned activities, and provide feedback to academic leadership on problems and emerging issues.

The A-Dean Working Group will:

1. Foster peer-to-peer learning and strengthen relationships across colleges/units through regular meetings and collaborative problem exploration
2. Explore challenging division-wide problems and emerging issues identified by the deans, vice provosts, and provost to provide possible solutions

Summary of Current Semester Activity:

ADWG held three meetings this semester (see schedule and description below):

- Meeting 9/19 - King Hall 259 (FKA ISAT/CS 259; Intelos Room)
At this meeting, we were joined by Anthony Tongen, Besi Muhonja, and Keith Holland to talk about Academic Institutes and Centers (AICs), specifically:
 - *How might Academic Affairs and R&S better organize and support Academic Institutes and Centers as vibrant catalysts of multidisciplinary scholarly collaboration and externally funded activities?"*

- *What modifications, updates, clarification, etc., may be necessary in AA Policy #1 to support this goal?*

After the discussion, the ADWG co-chairs collected feedback and shared that with the ORS team.

- Meeting 10/31 - Hartman Hall 3041 (COB Boardroom)
At this meeting, Elizabeth Oldmixon attended to solicit feedback on the Motion to Review JMU's AUH Leadership Model and Transition to a Department Chair Model of Leadership (draft resolution from the Faculty Senate).
- Meeting 12/5 - Zoom
At this meeting, Michael O'Fallon joined us to solicit input on Academic Affairs Policy #13: Associate Deans, as that policy is under revision. After the discussion, the ADWG co-chairs collected any additional feedback on the policy and shared it with Michael as the policy moves forward. We also established the following schedule of meetings for next semester:
January 30
February 27
March 27

Future Work Planned:

The ADWG Co-Chairs will connect with Elizabeth Oldmixon to talk about future agenda planning for the spring semester and about plans for the committee after this AY. Jeff Tang has established and will continue to work with a subgroup focusing on Admissions (with Melinda Wood) and there are also plans to address the question of evaluations (of Associate Deans) and the issue of academic bullying (starting with the question of graduate and undergraduate research assistants).