

**Topics for the Chancellor/Provost
January 16, 2013
A/P Staff Council Meeting**

1. In light of the rumors on campus about the conversion of continuing A/P appointments to term contracts, please comment on the rumors and tell us your philosophy on the future of continuing appointments for A/P staff. Also, can you tell us how the University's current policy for the conversion of term to continuing appointments after three years of satisfactory performance will apply to the term appointments of newly hired or promoted A/P staff?
2. Some units feel that they have been cut so severely that they are struggling just to provide basic services to students. When will there be a discussion of what services are central to our mission and the successful recruitment and retention of students? For the future, on what basis will strategic funding decisions be made such as the return of dollars lost to "sweeping" of salary lines?
3. The dissemination (email of scanned copies) of recent changes in academic policies (e.g., grade repeats, forgiveness policy, incompletes, and syllabus policy) has caught some frontline people off-guard. How were these changes promulgated and vetted and will this process become more formalized and transparent to the campus community?
4. Recent actions to limit approvals such as fiscal officer authority and approvals in the hiring process are perceived to create bottlenecks that are inefficient for conducting the University's business. For example, the length of time required for the approval process in hiring can result in losing excellent candidates, particularly minorities and women, when searches don't proceed in a timely fashion. Why are the Vice Chancellors and Deans not empowered to make more decisions for their areas with regard to hiring once the position request form has been approved?
5. Given the critical nature of our institutional enrollment issues, what can you tell us about new initiatives designed to increase enrollment? How can A/P Council and A/P staff help in furthering these initiatives?