Dr. Galardi opened the meeting advising that this would be a year of positivity. He encouraged everyone to have a positive attitude.

New faculty members introduced themselves: Dr. Jared Bartels, Psychology and Dr. Amber Mahan, Criminal Justice.

Dr. Nevitt moved that the minutes of the April 29, 2016 meeting be approved. Mr. Jackson seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Dr. Galardi advised that a question had been raised by a graduate about the way the degrees are presented on the diplomas. In this student’s case only the Bachelor of Science was listed. The option was not included.

Department members were reminded to review the Purchasing Card Procedures and the updated Employee Handbook.

Changes to academic policies:
A. The CAAP (Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency) test no longer will be required. It will be removed from the degree-audit webpage.
B. Students taking ENG 100 and MATH 100 no longer will be required to pass a proficiency test in order to advance to related General Studies courses.
C. The maximum class load for the summer enrollment will be 12 hours. A minimum Grade Point Average of 3.5 will be required during the previous semester to be considered for enrollment in more than 12 hours.

The Akademos Book Store is up and running with a few glitches – but not many. For the spring semester, faculty members will be entering their textbook adoptions in the Akademos system. Akademos will have a representative on campus each semester for book “buy back”.

It was noted that when several ISBN options of a text were provided, that Akademos featured the most expensive text. A faculty member asked if this could be changed when we debrief on the first round of the online bookstore review.

Revised Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy:
A. Financial Aid will now officially handle all Financial Aid Suspension appeals - faculty no longer will be involved in that process. The prior semester credit completion policy is now replaced with new standards of eligibility.
B. Online Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal form will be processed by students and Financial Aid personnel.
C. No limit on number of appeals
D. Individualized plans for success for appeals no longer are required. Students will follow a uniform plan for success as provided by Financial Aid.

Ms. Parriott and Dr. Bartels will represent Professional Studies on the Teacher Education Committee.
IX. John Tiner will serve as the School of Professional Studies representative to the President’s Council. The Council meets on Fridays. The first meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2016.

X. Refer requests for information about students to Deann Bayne, Director of Student Records.

XI. SPS Meeting Schedule for 2016-2017 – 9:00 a.m. meetings
   September 16, 2016
   October 21, 2016
   November 11, 2016
   December 2, 2016 (school meetings only)
   January 27, 2017
   March 17, 2017
   April 21, 2017

XII. Dr. Galardi reported that the Distance Education Office has a test drive feature that invites online visitors to “try an online classroom”. The feature has attracted 90 visitors.

XIII. Dr. Galardi referred department faculty to a letter from Governor Ricketts requesting a savings of one percent – 2016-2017 fiscal year. Savings from 2015-2016 budget were used to purchase needed equipment over the summer.

XIV. Several weeks ago faculty members received information reviewing the internship program. Faculty members can send input to Dr. Galardi or their faculty senate representative.

   Dr. Galardi added that Kristin Buscher, the Director of Assessment, will be focusing on assessment and working with us on outcomes. Dr. Borchers wants faculty involved in the development of these outcomes and learning objectives. This will be addressed by Dr. Borchers at an all-academic meeting in the future.

XV. Dr. Judy Grotrian will be representing the School of Professional Studies on the Scholarship Committee.

XVI. Dr. Mary Goebel-Lundholm will be representing the School of Professional Studies on the Rank Promotion and Tenure Committee.

XVII. Additional items of interest:
   A. Dr. Hayes, Dr. Nevitt, Ms. Petersen accompanied 17 students to London, Paris, and Amsterdam during May of 2016.
   B. Dr. Hutchison traveled to Africa and worked at a center that works in the study and continued existence of lions. Dr. Hutchison is looking into accompanying a student group there as well.
   C. Blackboard Social – run by Emily Schulte in Distance Education has 70 people signed up for the group.
   D. The vacant TJM 317 may be used for a “jail cell”, a child interview room/conference area, and a social-behavior science lab.
   E. The Deans and Directors are reading *Grit*.

XVIII. Meeting was adjourned.