

**Provost's Advisory Council  
Summary of October 1, 2015 Meeting**

Can Erbil (Chair)  
Min Song  
Anthony Annunziato  
William Keane  
Judith Clair  
Samuel Graves  
William Fehder  
Stephanie Berzin  
Thomas Crea  
Judith Tracy

Lillie Albert  
Laura O'Dwyer

David Quigley thanked the Council and faculty and staff across the University for making this year's August 31<sup>st</sup>

students are coming in with emergencies because they are unable to wait for the first available appointment. While there are still serious emergencies, the number of students with subclinical problems has increased. In earlier decades, these students were not bringing these problems to psychologists, but would seek help from family and/or friends. Now many students want help from trained professionals immediately. This puts a burden on University Counseling Services, and it is not feasible to add more and more counselors to the staff.

Tom has conducted focus groups with faculty and administrators about trends they have seen on campus, such as the over-involvement of parents, grade inflation, incomplete grades, and course withdrawals. Faculty are concerned that if they don't yield to student pressure, they will receive poor course evaluations. They also feel that there is limited support from the administration and that students are rejecting their authority. Students, on the other hand, feel that they do not have enough quality relationships with faculty on campus.

From the focus groups, Tom has heard that students are afraid to take risks. They often ask to redo papers, they want rubrics for every assignment, and they seem to care more about the grade than the learning process. Faculty are conflicted about how much guidance they should be providing. Many raise the issue of what to do if a student doesn't show up for class; there

#### **4. Open Conversation about Ideas/Topics for the PAC this Year**

Tom Wall, University Librarian, would like to discuss a policy for open access, specifically for faculty publications. This could be tied to the open textbook initiative. The AAUP and Association of Research Libraries both have statements on this. It is now a practice within many universities.

A Council member would like to talk about parking issues. Many colleagues have mentioned having trouble finding parking if they come to campus later in the day. David Quigley said he would