

VPAA Council Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2026

Members Present:

Tina Babb, Kim Boyd, Kim Crowley, Becky Burton, Edie Carter, Stephen Crandall, David Hall, Dr. Lori Petty, Dr. Frank Sobey, Eric Wallace, Jill Williams

Others Present:

Erin Martin

Dr. Frank Sobey called the meeting to order.

1. Writers' Corner and Tutoring Centers

The Council discussed the significant decline in usage of the Writers' Corner and tutoring centers. Reported declines included approximately 50% in Math and 40% in Science, with overall tutoring center visits also decreasing.

Discussion included the following points:

- Collaboration with Marketing is underway to improve communication and awareness of available tutoring services.
- Increased use of artificial intelligence (AI) by students has contributed to concerns about academic dishonesty during testing.
- Members emphasized the need for more instructor-generated assignments and greater consistency in instructional practices related to AI.
- The West Campus continues to account for the highest utilization of tutoring services.
- Tutoring services will receive additional promotion during Summer 2026, with Fall 2026 serving as an evaluation period for these efforts.
- The Council discussed strategies to keep tutoring centers visible and relevant while addressing unproductive AI use.
- One recommendation was for Writers' Corner staff to engage students in conversations about appropriate AI use.
- Members also agreed that faculty should provide clear and explicit expectations regarding assignment requirements and acceptable AI use.

2. Pantex Leadership Team Visit

Dr. Sobey reported on the recent visit with the Pantex Leadership Team.

Topics discussed included:

- Future partnership opportunities with Pantex are underway with Amarillo College.
- Available space is a concern as partnerships expand.
- Development of Badger Bound outreach pathways with Pantex.
- Revision of machining job descriptions to better align with Amarillo College student opportunities.
- Pantex's plan to conduct fire training in partnership with the First Responders Academy.
- Potential collaboration in business project management.
- Creation of an innovation challenge focused on the skilled trades.
- Opportunities for qualified Pantex employees to serve as adjunct faculty.

3. Other Business

a. Credentials of Value (Psychology and Biology)

The Council noted that Psychology and Biology are no longer classified as Credentials of Value. Members discussed identifying alternative credential pathways, including options within the General Studies degree.

b. Bachelor's Programs

The Council briefly discussed project planning and workflow for the proposed bachelor's degree programs in:

- Computer Information Systems (CIS)
- Business
- Respiratory Care

c. Leadership Training

Discussion focused on onboarding for new department chairs, including the possibility of offering a one-day intensive leadership training session during Fall 2026.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.