

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**April 1, 2013**  
**1:30 PM**  
**611 Allen**

Members Present: Jerry Gilbert, Richard Blackburn, Julia Porter (for Steve Brown), Tim Chamblee, Frances Coleman, Lou D'Abramo, John Dickerson, Rick Travis (for Greg Dunaway), Jerry Emison, Kent Hoblet, Ian Munn and Walter Taylor (for George Hopper), Sharon Oswald, Royce Bowden (for Bagley College of Engineering), Peter Ryan, Shelby Sims, Chris Snyder, Jim West.

Others Present: Phil Bonfanti, Teresa Gammill, Meghan Millea, James Orr, Scott Roberts, Judy Spencer, Steve Taylor.

Minutes Taken By: Martha Thomas.

1. Upon a motion by Lou D'Abramo and second by Jim West, the minutes of the March 4, 2013, meeting were approved unanimously with no corrections.
2. Announcements:
  - a. Jerry Gilbert gave a status update regarding the searches for the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, the Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School, and the Dean of the Bagley College of Engineering. Dr. Gilbert announced that Steve Taylor was selected as Executive Director of the Center for Distance Education.
  - b. Dr. Gilbert distributed information related to projects recently considered by the Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee. Dean West is the deans' representative on the committee.
  - c. Dr. Gilbert asked Phil Bonfanti to discuss recruiting efforts:
    - i. Dr. Bonfanti distributed information regarding actual enrollment numbers for new students.
    - ii. Dr. Bonfanti indicated that students who attended an Academic Insight event were registering at a higher rate than those who did not attend.
    - iii. Dr. Bonfanti discussed information related to various types of correspondence being sent to students who have applied to the university. Dr. Bonfanti asked that the colleges send letters to applicants and offered to print and mail the letters. He requested that the letters be sent by April 8.
    - iv. Frances Coleman offered to send a piece of correspondence from the Library.
  - d. Dr. Gilbert welcomed Shelby Sims, Vice President of the Student Association, to the Deans Council.
  - e. Dr. Gilbert discussed the recent proposed funding formula and how it will impact MSU.
  - f. Dr. Gilbert called attention to guidelines (best practices) for academic department heads on shared governance that he distributed via e-mail.
    - i. Kent Hoblet expressed concern that an administrator would be held accountable for a shared decision. Dr. Gilbert explained that the decision will be the administrator's but with shared input.
3. University's third-year review of administrators:
  - a. Dr. Gilbert distributed information regarding the proposed revised three-year review process that will be moved to an electronic, central process.

- Dr. Gilbert described part of the process which will require that the supervising administrator meet with faculty in a public forum to explain why an administrator whose reappointment is not in favor of the faculty was being reappointed.
- b. There was discussion about the potential conflict with the Faculty Senate confidence survey.
  - c. After discussion, it was decided that this process would begin during fall of 2013.
  - d. Dr. D'Abramo suggested that it may be good to consider requiring supervising administrators to meet with the faculty whether or not the faculty vote against reappointment of an administrator.
4. Faculty Senate's Confidence Survey of University Administrators:
- a. Meghan Millea explained that the Ancillary Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate manages this survey instrument that is available for all faculty with an EEO-20 classification. Numerical results will be made public with comments being seen by the supervising administrator. Dr. Millea asked that supervising administrators characterize the comments, not release to the administrator directly.
  - b. Dr. Gilbert stated that this was not an official survey of the university and that we want to be sure that the survey instrument doesn't diminish what the Provost's Office is doing with the third-year review of administrators.
  - c. Dr. Millea indicated that the survey purpose is to give voice to the faculty, for informational purposes.
5. Academic Operating Policies:
- a. AOP 12.12: Credit and Grades:
    - i. **Upon a motion by Peter Ryan and second by Dr. D'Abramo, the AOP was approved unanimously with no further edits.**
  - b. AOP 12.07: Student Honor Code Policy:
    - i. Dr. D'Abramo expressed concern that the sanctions found in item II.h. may not impact all graduate students. Scott Roberts stated that this is the minimum level of sanctions and that departments may have higher sanctions than those listed in the policy (so long as it is appropriately documented in the department).
    - ii. Dr. D'Abramo expressed concern that graduate students can graduate with an XF on his/her transcript. Dr. Gilbert reminded Dr. D'Abramo that it was recommended in the last Deans Council meeting that this be prohibited through the Graduate Bulletin.
    - iii. **Upon a motion by Dr. Ryan and second by Kent Hoblet, the AOP was approved with no further edits (with one abstention).**