

Associate Deans Council
January 23, 2013
Meeting Minutes

Present: Peter Ryan (Chair), Wes Ammon, Donny Banerjee, Ray Berryhill, Thomas Bourgeois, Royce Bowden, Lori Bruce, Tim Chamblee, Karen Coats, Robert Cooper, Diane Daniels, John Dickerson, Walter Diehl, Randy Follett, Becky Gardner, Terry Jayroe, Mitzy Johnson, Dinetta Karriem, David Lewis, Patricia Matthes, Scott Maynard, Linda Morse, Gail Peyton, Julia Porter, Mike Rackley, Kevin Rogers, James Scheiner, Steve Taylor, Walter Taylor, Rick Travis.

Guest: Tabor Mullen

Peter Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in 611 Allen Hall. He introduced new member, John Dickerson, MSU Registrar and guest, Tabor Mullen, Assistant Dean of Students.

1. Consideration of the minutes.

David Lewis made the motion and James Scheiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes of January 9, 2013. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Announcements.

- Peter Ryan announced the Study Abroad Fair being held today in the Colvard Student Union. He also noted that improvements to the Study Abroad Advising agreement forms are in process for approval of credit toward degrees from the academic units.
- Peter Ryan thanked colleagues for sending information on students who are participating in the Academic Common Market program. The information was submitted for the 2013 spring conference annual report. There are currently 237 out of state students participating in the program and MSU.
- Linda Morse reported on several upcoming events:
 - A Seminar: Theory & Practice, Wikis & Clickers will be held on January 30 at 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. in the IMC Presentation Room, Library
 - A Seminar: Service Learning Defined will be held on January 31 at 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. in the IMC Presentation Room, Library
 - Peter Ryan and Nancy Fultz will lead the program, Advising & Policies Update, on February 5 at 3:00 p.m. in the Library Auditorium.
 - Linda Morse and Deborah Eakin will work together on the Faculty Learning Community program focusing on the book, *How Learning Works*. The program will have 6 or 7 positions available for faculty members. Anyone interested can contact Linda Morse for more information.
 - Donna Reese lead the New Faculty Program on Understanding the Annual Review Process, offered on January 17, 2013 in the IMC Presentation room, Library.
 - There will be an upcoming social reception with new faculty and the Starkville Young Professionals (SYP) group to be held on February 7 beginning at 5:30 p.m.
 - Ray Berryhill is planning another athletic event for faculty to be held in the spring with football coach Dan Mullen as speaker.
- Julia Porter reported that enrollment has increased on the MSU Meridian campus. There are currently two searches in process for Assistant Associate Professor positions.
- Scott Maynard announced that Career Days will be held on February 5 for Business and Non-Technical and on February 6 for Engineering and Technical students.
- David Lewis reported on the presentation by Professor Brent Funderburk, “Walter Anderson: A World Vision of Art and Nature to be held on January 24 at 3:30 p.m. in the Giles Auditorium. There has also been discussion of a future development of a Walter Anderson Research Center at Mississippi State University.

- Royce Bowden distributed a handout announcing the Distinguished Lecture Series with Bobak “Mohawk” Ferdowsi and Adam “Elvis” Steltzner on January 29, 2013. The presentation, More than Just Curiosity, will begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Colvard Student Union. The event is open to the public with free admission.
- Royce Bowden noted the public unveiling of the ThinkBig! program sponsored by the Bagley College of Engineering. The program will be open to more than just engineering students. Each student team will be guided by a faculty mentor through a pre-proposal and proposal phase of the contest. Winners will receive \$5000 to \$10,000 to carry out their project. More information can be found on the BCOE website.
- Tim Chamblee announced that the NSSE survey will be sent out to approximately 4000 freshmen and 4600 seniors starting in February 2013. He distributed cards with more information and dates for upcoming emails to students and encouraged participation.
- Terry Jayroe reported on the joined forces of Mississippi State University’s College of Education and the University of Mississippi’s School of Education for the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program (MET) which is funded by the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation in Jackson totaling more than 12.9 million dollars. The universities hope to recruit 20 high achieving students at each campus per year and over a five-year period, produce up to 160 new teachers. All graduates make a five-year commitment to teach in Mississippi after graduation. If students decide to back out of the program, the scholarship would become a loan. The two universities have taken steps for producing high quality teachers to address the state’s educational needs.
- Kevin Rogers announced that the College of Business and the Department of Finance and Economic will host a special banking forum presentation by James Bullard, Ph.D., President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, on Thursday, February 14, 2013 at the Hunter Henry Center. More information will be sent out by email to departments and units.

3. **New Blackboard Software.**

Linda Morse and Mike Rackley reported on the migration to new software that will power the MyCourses learning management system, effective Maymester 2013. In response to the current software Vista being discontinued, the Instructional Technology Advisory Committee (ITAC) recommended last year that the university move to Blackboard Learn. A group of faculty are engaged in a pilot project during the spring semester using the new software which will be replacing Vista. There are also new supporting applications such as a web conferencing system and a mobile application for phones. There will be information sessions scheduled during February and hosted by the CTL to be followed by training session offerings. This software will not be an upgrade but a new program so training is encouraged. More information will be sent out by email from Mike Rackley, Chief Information Chief.

4. **A Guide for Faculty and Staff- Managing Student Behavior.**

Thomas Bourgeois distributed a two page guide (a shorter version drafted from the 14 page guide) developed by the Dean of Students’ office as an informational guide to assist and support faculty, staff, and the MSU community when dealing with students in distress. Tabor Mullen, Assistant Dean of Students who chairs the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), was also present at the meeting for support of any questions.

Thomas Bourgeois discussed ways to identify students in distress and explained how to address and report any issues. He noted the statement on the second page that MSU students, faculty and staff should not presume or promise confidentiality to anyone who discusses any violation of MSU policy or state law. Faculty and staff should refer the student to the Dean of Students’ office. Once an incident has been reported to a university official, it becomes the university’s obligation to take appropriate measures. The guide also gives information for actions during emergencies with contact numbers and what is provided by the maroon alerts to the MSU community.

After further discussion, Thomas Bourgeios asked that anyone please contact the Dean of Students office with any further suggestions, questions, or concerns.

5. Chair's Report – None.

6. AOP/OP

- AOP 00.000 Additional Course Fees

The proposed policy was drafted by the Additional Course Fee Committee and reviewed by General Counsel. After review and discussion, the council approved the policy with suggested edits to move forward to the Deans Council for further consideration.

7. New Business.

- Becky Gardner reported that Shackouls Honor College will host a state wide honors conference on March 23, 2013.
- The MSU Undergraduate Research Symposium & Community Engagement Presentations will be held on March 22, 2013 in Griffis Hall, 3rd and 4th floor.
- The Annual GSA Research Symposium will be held on March 23, 2013 in the McCool Atrium.
- Steve Taylor reported on the webinar discussing the growth and future of MOOCs (massive open online courses) that was held on January 22, 2013. He asked that an email be sent to him to request more information.

The meeting was adjourned 2:55 p.m.