

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**May 6, 2013**  
**1:30 PM**  
**611 Allen**

Members Present: Jerry Gilbert, Richard Blackburn, Steve Brown, Lori Bruce (for Bagley College of Engineering), Tim Chamblee, Frances Coleman, Karen Coats (for Lou D'Abramo), John Dickerson, Greg Dunaway, Jerry Emison, Kent Hoblet, Julia Hodges, George Hopper, Brandon Jolly (for Joan Lucas), Sharon Oswald, Mike Rackley, Peter Ryan, Chris Snyder, Jim West.

Others Present: Cecy Brooks, Judy Spencer, Steve Taylor, Ray Vaughn.

Minutes Taken By: Martha Thomas.

1. Upon a motion by Frances Coleman and second by George Hopper, the minutes of the April 15, 2013, meeting were approved unanimously with no corrections.
2. Announcements:
  - a. Jerry Gilbert expressed appreciation for Kent Hoblet and the College of Veterinary Medicine's response to the recent death of a student.
  - b. Dr. Gilbert discussed the series of coffee meetings he is hosting with the academic department heads on the subject of leadership.
  - c. Dr. Gilbert gave a status update regarding the searches for the Associate Vice President and Dean of the Graduate School and the Dean of the Bagley College of Engineering.
3. Faculty Enlight Demonstration:
  - a. Cecy Brooks gave a demonstration of Faculty Enlight, the new database available for textbook research that allows faculty members to see what textbooks are available for adoption, read textbook reviews, view other universities' textbooks, select textbooks from different media types (physical book, eBook, and book rental), and request desk copies. The database is accessible by visiting [www.shopmissstate.com](http://www.shopmissstate.com) and clicking "Faculty".
  - b. There was discussion as to the price discrepancy for textbooks from various sources including Barnes & Noble on campus, Barnes & Noble on-line, and other textbook retailers.
  - c. Chris Snyder suggested that faculty-authored books be featured more prominently in Barnes & Noble on campus. Ms. Brooks stated that she would look into this suggestion and stated that several faculty authors have had great success with holding book-signing events at Barnes & Noble.
4. Academic Operating Policies:
  - a. AOP 12.11: Degree Requirements – Undergraduate:
    - i. There were suggested edits made to the AOP:
      1. Brandon Jolly suggested adding the word "and" prior to item 1.(5).
      2. Tim Chamblee suggested adding an item 1.(9): "Prior job/work experience alone cannot count as academic credit at MSU."
      3. Karen Coats suggested omitting "In order" in the first sentence of item 2.
      4. John Dickerson suggested omitting "Part III of" in item 7.

- ii. There was discussion about there needing to be a similar AOP for graduate degree requirements.
  - iii. There was discussion about the definition of Natural Science.
  - iv. **Upon a motion by Peter Ryan and second by Dean Coleman, the AOP was approved unanimously with the above edits.**
- b. AOP 13.12: Summer School and Maymester Instruction – Nine-Month Faculty:
- i. **Dr. Ryan made a motion that the AOP be approved as presented. Sharon Oswald seconded the motion.**
    - 1. Discussion:
      - a. Jerry Emison asked why a 9-month faculty member receives 8% of his/her 9-month salary to teach a class during the summer while he/she receives 12.5% during the regular academic year.
      - b. Dr. Gilbert stated that the total class load during a regular semester is four classes.
      - c. Julia Hodges stated that teaching is not the only responsibility during the regular academic year.
      - d. Dr. Ryan stated that summer school pay is a separate contract. Dr. Emison stated that this argument was unfair and that the university is receiving the same compensation for delivering the course whether it is delivered in the fall, spring, or summer; however, the faculty member is receiving less compensation when the class is taught in the summer. Richard Blackbourn stated that faculty do not have to accept summer work.
      - e. There was discussion as to how other universities handle summer school pay.
      - f. Dr. Oswald stated that MSU offers more summer school teaching opportunities than other universities. Richard Blackbourn stated that MSU is more generous as to how many students are required for a course to make during the summer.
      - g. Dr. Emison stated that currently 9-month faculty are either undercompensated during the summer or overcompensated during the regular school year.
      - h. Dr. Gilbert stated that the summer school and Maymester percentage of salary rate increased from 7% to 8% approximately six years ago.
      - i. There was discussion as to how instructors' pay is handled for summer school classes when the 8% rate is less than the typical lecturer rate of pay. Dr. Hodges stated that this should not be in the policy due to the variation among departments and colleges.
      - j. Dr. Emison asked what the principle was behind setting the pay rate at 8%.
      - k. Greg Dunaway stated that he would like to see faculty earn more during the summer but that he

understands the summer school budget to have a different funding and budget model as well as a different economy of scale than the regular academic year.

1. Dr. Gilbert stated that MSU's practices follow the pattern of what is done at many universities across the country.
- m. There was discussion about suggested other models of pay, including raising the minimum enrollment and restricting certain people from teaching during the summer.

ii. **The motion was approved with no further edits, with one opposed.**

5. Other Items:

- a. Dr. Dickerson stated that he will send information related to Commencement later in the week.
- b. Dr. Dickerson reminded the Deans that grades are due by 12:00 noon on May 7, 2013.
- c. Steve Brown gave an update on MSU-Meridian's commencement.
- d. Dr. Hopper asked whether there was any likelihood for salary adjustments for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Dr. Gilbert stated that he would expect there to be no salary adjustments; however, that the faculty salary compression adjustments would be funded.