

Deans Council Minutes
August 18, 2014
1:30 PM
President's Conference Room, Lee Hall

Members Present: Jerry Gilbert (chair), Richard Blackbourn, Lori Bruce, Tim Chamblee, Frances Coleman, Cody Coyne, John Dickerson, Greg Dunaway, Haley Grantham, Kent Hoblet, Julia Hodges, George Hopper, Jason Keith, Joan Lucas, Sharon Oswald, Mike Rackley, Peter Ryan, Chris Snyder, Jim West.

Others Present: Teresa Gammill, Steve Taylor.

Minutes taken by: Martha Thomas.

1. Upon a motion by Greg Dunaway and second by Frances Coleman, the minutes of the August 7, 2014, meeting were approved unanimously with no edits.
2. Announcements:
 - a. Jerry Gilbert reminded the Deans Council of plans for Freshman Convocation with the deans meeting at the Hunter Henry Center at 3:45 PM to be transported to the Coliseum.
 - b. Dr. Gilbert announced that a campus-wide meeting would be held Thursday, September 4 at 2:00 PM on the topic of the scholarship and evaluation of teaching. The meeting would feature Dr. Blannie Bowen, vice provost for academic affairs at Penn State, and a panel of MSU faculty.
 - c. Dr. Gilbert asked that the deans encourage faculty to record freshman attendance.
 - d. Dr. Gilbert gave an update regarding current enrollment for fall 2014 and discussed efforts to examine enrollment strategies and management.
3. AOP 13.01 – Emeritus Appointments:
 - a. **Peter Ryan moved that the AOP be accepted as presented. Dr. Dunaway seconded the motion.**
 - b. Discussion:
 - i. Dr. Gilbert explained that there was discussion among some members of upper administration regarding what emeritus status does and does not entail. Dr. Gilbert stated that emeritus faculty do not have the same rights as tenured faculty and that it is at the discretion of the administration to accept the offered services of an emeritus faculty member.
 - ii. **Julia Hodges recommended to remove “associate” from line three of paragraph 2.**
 - iii. Kent Hoblet asked if there was a process to revoke emeritus status. Dr. Gilbert stated that emeritus status could be revoked but that the revocation process did not necessarily have to be written into policy. Joan Lucas agreed.
 - iv. Mike Rackley asked whether an individual had to retire in order to be considered for emeritus. Dr. Gilbert answered “yes.”
 - v. Dr. Dunaway asked whether all faculty ranks and types are eligible for emeritus and whether colleges had policies regarding eligibility. Dr. Gilbert stated that some colleges and departments have policies in place at their levels.

- vi. **Tim Chamblee recommended minor edits to the policy purpose.**
 - c. **The motion was approved unanimously with the edits described above.**
4. Other Items:
 - a. Sharon Oswald asked if there had been further discussion on visitor parking passes. Dr. Gilbert stated that he hadn't heard anything at a Vice Presidents meeting and would ask for an update.
 - b. Dr. Oswald asked that the deans share with their colleges the College of Business's request that those who use Taylor Auditorium clean after themselves as appropriate.
 - c. Dr. Gilbert welcomed the members of Deans Council to provide an update on their units:
 - i. Dr. Chamblee reminded the deans that Institutional Effectiveness reports were due soon.
 - ii. Lori Bruce stated that the graduate catalog has moved online and that her office would be moving to the 6th floor of Allen Hall over the next week.
 - iii. Mr. Rackley reminded the Deans Council that employees can obtain Microsoft Office software for no charge through ITS. Microsoft Office can also be purchased by MSU employees for personal use for a lower price than retail.
 - iv. Dr. Oswald announced recent rankings in a top journal, including a ranking for a finance master's degree program that MSU does not offer.
 - v. Chris Snyder announced that the median ACT for incoming Honors students is 31 and median GPA is 4.0.
 - vi. Dr. Dunaway discussed recent personnel changes in his office including Giselle Thibaudeau serving as Interim Associate Dean and Karyn Brown serving as Communications Director.
 - vii. Frances Coleman announced that the Library website had been updated and called attention to the welcome sign at the entrance to Mitchell Memorial Library which features multiple languages welcoming patrons to the library.
 - viii. George Hopper discussed the recent passing of a faculty member and the search for several positions within the colleges.
 - ix. Kent Hoblet stated that the College of Veterinary Medicine was preparing for an accreditation visit in October.
 - x. Jim West discussed the recent presentation by Sasaki regarding pending MSU construction and renovation projects. Dean West announced that a verbal offer has been made to an associate dean for research and that he hopes the candidate will begin on October 1. He expressed appreciation for Teresa Gammill's chairing the search committee.
 - xi. Jason Keith announced that the Bagley College of Engineering has an all-time high in terms of numbers of students. Dr. Keith discussed joint efforts with the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jackson Academy, and a university in Morocco.
 - xii. Haley Grantham stated that Senate elections are coming up. She discussed the great success of the New Maroon Camp.

- xiii. Steve Taylor stated that the Center for Distance Education was in the process of calling distance students who had not yet registered for fall classes.
 - xiv. Cody Coyne announced the hiring of a new assistant for the Faculty Senate. Dr. Coyne discussed the importance of Senators conveying information from the Senate to their colleges.
 - xv. Judy Spencer asked the Deans Council to ensure they have sent information regarding their units' annual reviews to Human Resources Management. Ms. Spencer stated that her office would send reminders to those who have not yet submitted information.
 - xvi. Dr. Ryan announced that 88 individuals participated in New Faculty Orientation and thanked the Deans Council for their support.
5. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 PM.