

**Deans Council**  
**July 19, 2010**  
**1:30 PM**  
**Allen 611**

**Members Present:** Jerry Gilbert (chair), Richard Blackbourn, Timothy Chamblee, Frances Coleman, Lou D'Abramo, Rhett Hobart, Kent Hoblet, George Hopper, Joan Lucas, Hart Bailey (for Meghan Millea), Gary Myers, Sarah Rajala, Lynne Richardson, Peter Ryan, Sharon Nobles (for Butch Stokes), Jack Tucci, and David Lewis (for Jim West).

**Others Present:** Diane Alexander, Mark Binkley, David Breaux, David Shaw, Judy Spencer, Tommy Stevenson.

**Minutes taken by:** Martha Thomas.

1. Dr. Gilbert introduced Joan Lucas as Interim General Counsel.
2. The minutes of the June 7, 2010, meeting were approved with the following corrections:
  - a. "Scott Strickland" was corrected to "Scott Stricklin."
  - b. "Dr. Gilbert mentioned that the budget situation for FY 11 does not look good" was corrected to "Dr. Gilbert mentioned that the budget situation for FY 12 does not look good."
3. Announcements:
  - a. Dr. Gilbert announced a campus-wide Deans and Department Heads meeting tentatively scheduled for August 4, 2010, at 10:00 AM in Taylor Auditorium.
  - b. Dr. Gilbert and Dr. Ryan met recently with representatives from Admissions and Scholarships to discuss better coordination between that office and Academic Affairs. Dr. Gilbert asked that the Deans begin thinking about enrollment goals for each college and department. Dr. Gilbert also indicated that President Keenum is interested in getting a better handle on scholarships and the coordination of scholarships across the campus.
  - c. Dr. Gilbert reminded the Council of his e-mail memo from July 9 in which he has asked Deans to give a priority listing of faculty lost to the retirement incentive as well as a priority listing of departments that lost staff positions due to the retirement incentive.
  - d. David Shaw and Joan Lucas discussed the importance of all faculty and staff completing the Application for Permission to Engage in Outside Employment prior to engaging in outside employment or consulting, especially as it relates to the oil spill on the Gulf Coast
4. Dr. David Breaux led a discussion concerning the Maroon Edition, focusing on a number of programs that will be occurring associated with Maroon Edition. Dr. Gilbert announced that all SEC universities now have first year reading experience programs. Dr. Gilbert hopes that the Deans will attend events associated with Maroon Edition, especially Greg Mortenson's visit on September 23.
5. Dr. Tommy Stevenson, Interim Director of the Office of Diversity and Equity Programs, led a discussion about his office and how this office can assist the colleges with recruitment of faculty.

6. Judy Spencer, Interim Director of Human Resources Management, led a discussion about the retirement incentive, focusing on the evaluations of departments affected by incentive retirees.
7. Dr. Peter Ryan introduced AOP 12.11 and AOP 12.13 and asked Tim Chamblee and Sharon Nobles to explain them. After discussion, the Deans Council passed motions to approve these AOPs.
8. Other Items:
  - a. Several deans indicated that they would be interested in having travel authorization within the State of Mississippi for an entire year rather than on a month-by-month basis. Dr. Gilbert indicated that his office would look into this and report back to the Deans Council.
  - b. Dr. George Hopper announced that Dr. Andy Ezell was elected Fellow to the Society for American Forestry.
  - c. Dr. Gilbert announced Dr. Hopper's new interim position as the Interim Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Interim Director of MAFES.
  - d. Rhett Hobart led a discussion about The Drill and how it could be improved in terms of Deans involvement for future years.
  - e. Dr. Jack Tucci led a discussion about paper PARFs and other potential paper reduction. Dr. Gilbert indicated that his office would look into Dr. Tucci's specific question regarding PARFs.
  - f. Dr. Lou D'Abramo announced that the Graduate School, in cooperation with the Library and Center for Teaching & Learning, will initiate a program for Ph.D. students to help prepare them for careers in higher education.
  - g. Dr. Sarah Rajala announced that Dr. Donna Reese, former Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in Engineering, is now the Interim Department Head for Computer Science and Engineering. Dr. Rajala also informed the Council of the Summer Bridge Program's success.
  - h. Dr. Lynne Richardson announced that Dr. Tim Chamblee has agreed to chair the United Way efforts for Academic Affairs and that the Summer Scholars Program will be premiering its shows on Friday and Saturday.
  - i. Dr. Richard Blackburn announced that, according to Diverse Issues in Higher Education, MSU is ranked #4 among universities with the highest number of African-American students receiving bachelor's degrees in Education.