

Deans Council Minutes
May 4, 2009

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Richard Blackbourn, Drew Cleek, Donna Clevinger, Harry Llull (for Frances Coleman), Lou D'Abramo, Jerry Gilbert, Kent Hoblet, George Hopper, Melissa Mixon, Linda Morse, Gary Myers, Sarah Rajala, Lynne Richardson, and Jim West. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Tim Chamblee, Julie Fulgham, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley and Butch Stokes.

1. **Administrators voting:** Dean Richardson submitted this item for discussion. She asked if other deans feel it is appropriate to vote always, never, or on certain topics. In the College of Business, the dean and associate deans do vote on various items. With the exception of the College of Engineering (where the dean only votes on college awards), other deans stated that they do not vote in college elections.
2. **Enrollment management:** Julie Fulgham reported that she and Jerry Gilbert are on an Enrollment Management Team, and that she and her employees are developing models to predict enrollment. These predictions will be down to the department level and we will need to go to program level to see exactly where needs are. Please share information with Julie as you propose new programs. Dr. Rabideau stressed that the first step in proposing new programs is to talk with him. Duplication of programs is an issue to consider.
3. **Distinguished Professors:** Dr. Rabideau discussed the policy regarding the selection process for Distinguished Professors. Although the policy states a minimum of three years at MSU, some current Distinguished Professors (who may serve on the selection committee) feel that a minimum of 10 years at MSU is required. Dr. D'Abramo (a Distinguished Professor) also discussed this issue and stated that this is not a longevity award.
4. **Course Fees:** Dr. Rabideau stated that course fees, if not applied to all students at MSU, are approved by the provost. Dr. Rabideau is giving considerable thought to a committee to review course fees and have student representation on this committee. There was discussion concerning differential tuition.
5. **Other Items:**
 - Dean D'Abramo reported that:
 - a. For 2008-09, 123 PhD and EdD degrees were awarded.
 - b. In the near future, in preparation for a future Deans Council meeting, Dr. D'Abramo hopes to send a new definition of graduate faculty with criteria and responsibilities. This is in preparation for SACS.
 - Harry Llull reported for Dean Coleman:
 - a. The Grant Association meeting is going very nicely.
 - b. Next week, Dean Coleman will accompany President Keenum to Washington, D.C. regarding ARL status.
 - Dean Mixon reported that on June 26, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences will host their annual summer celebration.
 - Dean Hoblet asked how much detail was required on the outreach and economic development request. Dr. Rabideau stated that the request came from Amy Tuck and she would have to answer that question.
 - Dean Clevinger reported that the Meridian commencement went very well and Dr. Rabideau agreed.
 - Registrar Stokes reported that:

- a. The two commencements on campus were very nice and he appreciated all the support.
- b. Grades are due on May 5th at noon.
- c. In thinking about enrollment for fall 2009 this year, letters will be written earlier to students who should be enrolled but are not.
- Dean Hopper expressed sympathy in the tragic loss in the death of the daughter of the owners of City Bagel.
- Drew Cleek reported:
 - a. Blake Jeter is still working on textbook exchange website.
 - b. Regarding retention rates, it seems students who are more involved seem to stay in school longer.
 - c. The Student Association is still working on early registration for veterans and people going overseas.
 - d. The Student Association is working on the upcoming fall Drill.
- Dean Richardson reported:
 - a. A thank you to Butch for his assistance at commencement. She also asked if we could consider slowing the pace just a bit at commencement. Several deans felt that it progressed too fast.
 - b. Paul Grimes will assume the position of Associate Dean of Instruction and Operations and Dr. Ron Taylor will be going back to the faculty.
 - c. Dr. Keenum has reported that he is on the search committee for the Commissioner position. Vice Presidents and above will be considered.
- Dean Myers reported that:
 - a. The College of Arts and Sciences has appointed two new department heads:
 - K. C. Morrison (from University of Missouri) in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, who will also be a senior fellow in African American Studies.
 - John Beckel (from University of Cincinnati) in the Department of Philosophy and Religion.
 - b. Bethany Stich in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration has been named researcher of the month.
- Dean Blackburn stated he should be able to announce two new department heads very soon.
- Dean Rajala reported:
 - a. An engineering student recently died on campus, as a result of an enlarged heart.
 - b. At Engineering College Celebration day, four awards were distributed:
 - Rafael Hernandez, Chemical Engineering, received the research award.
 - Adrienne Minerick, Chemical Engineering, received the educator award.
 - Roger King received the lifetime achievement award
 - Glen Dennis received the service award.
 - c. The College of Engineering currently has three ongoing department head searches.
 - d. Dr. Tony Vizzini, head of Aerospace Engineering, is going to Western Michigan University as Dean of Engineering on July 1.
 - e. Dean Rajala is the chair of the VP for Research and Economic Development search committee. Please submit potential candidate names.
- Mike Rackley reported that the band hall is being renovated. When complete, Butler Lab facility will be located there.
- Teresa Gammill reported that Dr. Schulz only has ten days left at MSU, before assuming the presidency of Kansas State University.