

Deans Council Minutes November 2, 2009

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Richard Blackburn, Frances Coleman, Lou D'Abramo, Kent Hoblet, George Hopper, Meghan Millea, Melissa Mixon, David Breaux (for Gary Myers), Donna Reese (for Sarah Rajala), Paul Grimes (for Lynne Richardson), Peter Ryan, Jeffrey Slater, Jack Tucci, and Jim West. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Julie Fulgham, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley, Melvin Ray (for Glenn Steele), and Butch Stokes.

1. Dr. Ryan reminded the deans that Copiah Lincoln Community College representatives will be on campus on November 13 to discuss the transfer of students from Co-Lin to MSU. The meeting will be held in the Forum Room of Griffis Hall.
2. Dr. Ryan reported that the committee looking at course fees is working to review all course fee submissions and plan to have the fees effective for the spring semester, or no later than fall semester.
3. Budget: Dr. Rabideau led a discussion concerning the 3% budget reduction process. Dr. Rabideau assumes that the reduction will not occur before the governor actually announces a 3% cut.
4. Rabideau items:
 - Dr. Rabideau distributed information that was shared at the first meeting of the Efficiencies and Innovations Committee, and led a discussion regarding those handouts. Dr. Rabideau, Dr. Hart Bailey and Mike McGrevey will meet this afternoon, and will discuss future meeting dates.
 - Dr. Rabideau reported that he has spoken with other Provosts and they routinely make adjustments to tenure dates. Dr. Al Rankins (Interim Assistant Commissioner for Academic Affairs at IHL) is supportive of extending tenure clock under certain circumstances and will work to make a provision within board policy to allow for that. We will report more as progress is made.
 - IHL staff has advised that new programs to be considered at next board meeting should be withdrawn. This is not a good time to get new programs approved.
 - Dr. Rabideau reported that he was recently involved in a conference call with other provosts and IHL regarding graduation rates, community colleges, and remedial work.
5. Other Items:

- Registrar Stokes shared information regarding the single commencement ceremony to be held on December 11 at 7:00 PM at the Coliseum. Approximately 880 graduates have indicated they will attend. Current construction in front of the Coliseum will affect entry into the building.
- The Mississippi Electronic Transcript Task Force is at work and most high schools will be able to send electronic transcripts to colleges and universities by next fall. Of 15 community colleges, 14 can send transcripts electronically now; this is very important for transfer students.
- Interim Dean Mixon reported that the Phi Kappa Phi initiation went very well yesterday.
- Dean Tucci reported that the electronic transfer has been very beneficial to the Meridian campus in terms of space.
- Associate Dean Donna Reese reported that the first candidate for Vice President for Research and Economic Development was on campus today and Dean Rajala is involved in that visit.