

Deans Council Minutes
February 4, 2008

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Richard Blackburn, Donna Clevinger, Harry Llull (for Frances Coleman), Jerry Gilbert, Kent Hoblet, George Hopper, Gary Myers, David Nagel, Bill Person, Al Rankins, Lynne Richardson, Glenn Steele, Walter Taylor (for Vance Watson), and Jim West. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Butch Stokes, Charles Guest, and Mike Rackley.

1. **IHL Planning Summit:** Dr. Rabideau distributed a list of people who would be attending an IHL Planning Summit in Jackson on February 13. The purpose of the summit is to address IHL strategic initiative. Dr. Rabideau believes that we are doing the kinds of things we need to do at MSU.
2. **Budget:** We do not have information about the budget yet. The President's top priority is faculty positions. We will work on putting this list together. Deans who can make a case for faculty positions based on enrollments, should get their information to Dr. Rabideau in two weeks. We are not sure when the President will need the information. The President is looking to redesign the tuition rebate system. We want to give him our list of needs, but they must be justified. We are not clear concerning salary increases, but if available, it may be available for non-administrators. Operating funds is a sensitive issue. Dr. Rabideau will also be looking at reallocating in areas where we may have lost students; he will be looking at the whole college.
3. **Classroom Scheduling:** Butch Stokes stated that two major buildings will be closing this summer (Harned and Lloyd Ricks, as well as Middleton). We will need to temporarily relocate classes that meet in those buildings. We also have confirmed that admissions are up significantly over the same day last year. We will be looking at expanding on the schedule for classes. Astra Scheduling will look at our Fall 2007 master schedule and analyze our master schedule to assist us in maximizing our facilities.
4. **Promotion and Tenure:** Dr. Rabideau gave an update on the Promotion and Tenure process for this year. External letters from institutions where the applicant holds a degree and letters from collaborators of the applicant are inappropriate. The Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee is discussing the possibility of the applicant having an opportunity for rebuttal at each stage of the approval/disapproval process. After discussion from several deans, Dr. Nagel will return to the Senate with information from this discussion. There was mention of the possibility of a one-time rebuttal at the dean's level, before the application goes to the Provost, with a time limit of 10 days from the date of the letter from the Dean to the applicant.
5. **Other Items:**
 - Dean Person reported that they had a very successful AGEM symposium, attended by approximately 300 people.

- Dean Blackburn reported that the College of Education is working with the Office of Research on a research forum, with a speaker from the American Institutes of Research. Invitations will be forthcoming.
- Dean Clevinger reported that Don Zant has been performing the first internal audit for Meridian campus. They are also auditing the Riley Center.
- Dean Hopper reported that:
 - a) His college and the College of Architecture, Art, and Design had earlier reported the raising of a house. Bad weather has postponed this, but they are now planning this on February 9.
 - b) The Search Committee for the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School is accepting applications; and 12 applications have been received.
- Dean West reported that:
 - a) The search for Dean of the College of Engineering is moving forward. We have interviewed one candidate and have three more candidates over the next three weeks. We hope to have a recommendation to the Provost fairly early in March.
 - b) In 2007, our students in CAAD won 97 national or regional competitions
- Dean Myers reported that the Black History Month guest speaker for February 7 is Joe Dudley, Sr. Events will be a luncheon and an evening event.
- Dean Hoblet reported that the search for Dean of Arts and Sciences has identified three candidates and we begin interviews next week. We hope to have a recommendation to the Provost by early March.
- Dean Richardson reported that:
 - a) Cynthia Cooper will be on campus on February 15 and will speak to some classes and have a book signing.
 - b) Last week we had "Meet the Dean" events in several locations.
 - c) We are addressing accreditation issues.
- Registrar Stokes reported that:
 - a) He will be meeting with a state-wide task force concerning a system of electronic transcripts throughout the state.
 - b) Next week, he will present information at the Southern Association of College Registrars and Admission Officers Conference in Virginia.
- Dr. Gilbert reported that he and Mike Rackley co-chair a committee for protected information. On-line training will be available for everyone on campus. Every employee who has access to protected information will be asked to go through this training.
- Dr. Nagel reported that:
 - a) Faculty Senate will be discussing Promotion and Tenure at their upcoming meeting this Friday. He will bring the compromise up and have a discussion regarding that.
 - b) We are in evaluation time.