

**Deans Council Minutes
April 7, 2008**

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Richard Blackburn, Donna Clevinger, Frances Coleman, Jerry Gilbert, George Hopper, Melissa Mixon, Gary Myers, David Nagel, Bill Person, Al Rankins, Lynne Richardson, Glenn Steele, and Jim West. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Julie Fulgham, Amy Adkerson (for Butch Stokes), Charles Guest, and Melvin Ray (for Kirk Schulz).

1. **Update on Dean Searches:** Dr. Rabideau gave the following updates:
 - Dean of Engineering Search - We have narrowed to two candidates (Jim Peterson from Washington State and Sarah Rajala from MSU). Peterson and his wife will be on campus Thursday and Friday of this week.
 - Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Graduate School - We have a short list and Dean Hopper is working on this.
 - Dean of Arts and Sciences - Dr. Gary Myers has been named Dean of Arts and Sciences.
2. **Planning Process in Future State:** Dr. Rabideau chaired the recent Future State meetings, where we received annual updates on a number of initiatives. Joe Farris will put the notes for these meetings together. Items funded under MSU funds will be the decision of Dr. Watson.
3. **Reviews of Deans:** Dr. Rabideau has previously asked for information from each dean regarding annual review, but expectations differ in various areas. We also have a couple of deans who are undergoing a more detailed third year review as required by policy. It is reasonable that some summary of strengths, areas that need attention, etc. would be provided to the college. Dr. Rabideau would like the deans' thoughts on providing feedback.
4. **Budget and Planning Meetings:** Dr. Rabideau led a discussion concerning the possibility of all deans being invited to all budget and planning sessions in future years. There was also discussion concerning the possibility of having an all-day deans' meeting, where each dean would be given an opportunity to share a condensed version of their presentation.
5. **Digital Measures:** Dr. Rabideau led a discussion concerning an e-mail received from Digital Measures and the possibility of having them come to campus and talk with us about the product. We will follow up.
6. **SACS Accreditation:** Dr. Gilbert reported that SACS has a new requirement - - we are now required to undergo a 5-year review. Faculty credentials and requirements must be met or we must have a letter from the Provost stating why specific faculty can teach without the required credentials. We need each college to do state licensing exams and job placement rates.
7. **Recruiting Minority Faculty:** We received money from the President to recruit minority faculty members. We now have a definition of minority, based on the Ayers settlement case - - African American faculty members and not Caribbean, African, Cuban, etc. They must be a permanent resident or citizen.
8. **Other Items:**

Bill Person for Office of Graduate School

- The deans are invited to come to a very informal reception for 50 outstanding potential students on April 18 at the Bost Extension Auditorium from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Donna Clevinger for Meridian Campus

- On April 8th, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, we have an awards reception for faculty and staff for outstanding work.
- Yesterday, we had the first opera at the Riley Center, and had a sold-out crowd.
- We have more events coming up and invite you to those. Our new season will be announced in June.
- We invite you to check our prices and book your event at the Riley Center. In the last 1.5 year, we had:
 - Over 20,000 attendees for conferences.
 - Over 25,000 elementary school students visit.
 - Over 40,000 patrons attended the events.

Dean Richardson for College of Business and Industry

- We had Honor Society Induction Friday night and our atrium was a good place for a dinner for 250 people. We had the Induction ceremony in our auditorium.
- This Friday, we will begin our Executive Education entrée for a large firm in Jackson.
- We will have our Advisory Board meeting in two weeks.
- We are planning a leadership retreat on the Coast.

Dean Coleman for the Library

- We hosted the Ragtime Festival recently.
- School Librarians came to campus for the Mega Resources project. We had about 80 individuals attend, and had to turn some away.

Dean Hopper for the College of Forest Resources

- We have a distinguished lecture series coming up on April 24. This is open to the university.

Mark Binkley for Academic Outreach and Continuing Education

- We will begin our first faculty workshop in distance learning, and hope to get that announcement out in the next week.

Dean Steele for the College of Engineering

- Several research faculty working groups will handle an energy workshop on April 17 from 12:30 to 3:00 at McCain.

Dean Blackburn for the College of Education

- Save the date for our first research forum in the College on Friday at Bost (distributed a handout). This will include lunch. You can register at the college website. We currently have about 75 people registered.

Dean Myers for the College of Arts and Sciences

- We have a distinguished lecturer this Wednesday. Michael Burleigh from the UK, is a specialist in terrorism and will speak at 5:00 PM at 4th Floor Swalm.
- We have Advisory Board meeting this month.
- The Student Advisory Council cookout which was scheduled for April 1 has been rescheduled to April 23.

Dean West for the College of Architecture, Art, and Design

- Marita Gootee was one of eleven artists from five countries to be included in a women artists show in New York City.
- Jamie Mixon designs posters for rock concerts and she recently won first prize nationally.
- Design Intelligence ranks schools of design and our school ranked second. Virginia Tech was first. We also ranked second in regional.

Dr. Melvin Ray for the Office of Research and Economic Development

- Dean Richardson did some focus groups and we will follow up with a survey of faculty and staff looking at ratings of services.
- Our numbers of awards are down now, but we are optimistic about that increasing.
- Associate Deans went to Washington, DC for meetings and this was a successful trip.

Jerry Gilbert reported:

- Faculty Recognition ceremony is April 22 at 11:00 AM.
- Today is Honors orientation.

David Nagel for Faculty Senate

- Faculty Senate passed its Promotion and Tenure recommendations, and this should be coming to this group soon.
- Elections for next year are this Friday.

Julie Fulgham for Institutional Research

- Student evaluation of faculty will be distributed this week. Please get them out to faculty as soon as possible.
- We are now collecting data daily on returning students. We can report each Friday with Thursday night information.

Mike Rackley for ITS

- Beginning with Maymester, we will switch from WebCT to Blackboard Vista. Center for Teaching and Learning is providing training now.

Charles Guest for University Counsel

- When asked about serving beer for events in Swalm, Mr. Guest says the law does not allow this in our county. Beer is illegal, but alcoholic beverages are not illegal.

Amy Adkerson for Registrar's office

- Registration for existing students will continue throughout this week. Honors registration started this week. Tomorrow seniors will register.
- The capacity study for Astra Company - - final results and recommendations are in and we will talk with them later this week. This will be presented very soon.