

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**March 5, 2007**

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Richard Blackburn, Frances Coleman, Jerry Gilbert, Danny Hollingsworth, Nick Nichols, Phil Oldham, Bill Person, Ruth Prescott, Glenn Steele, Lynn Reinschmiedt (for Vance Watson), Lee Weiskopf, Jim West, and Jeanne Swafford. Also present were: Kirk Schulz, Mark Binkley, Rusty Foster (for Butch Stokes), and Charles Guest.

1. Judy Spencer, Associate Director of Human Resources, distributed a list of upcoming service awards for MSU personnel and stated that due to declining attendance in the past few years, there will be no recognition ceremony this year. Since there will not be a campus-wide recognition ceremony, divisions are encouraged to recognize their personnel in other ways. In June or July, we will have an event for retiring faculty. There was concern that faculty would not be on campus to participate at that time of year. Judy will share that information.
2. Budget Information Requests: Dr. Rabideau sent an e-mail requesting other budget needs. If we have an opportunity to get some additional support, we want to be prepared with expressed needs that are connected to the FutureSTATE plan. We will include faculty positions. Dr. Rabideau plans to furnish the President with a prioritized list of needs. This information will be due on Friday.
3. Annual Budget and Planning Meetings: We will begin to schedule the annual budget and planning meetings, similar to those we have had for the last 2-3 years. We will coordinate as much as possible with the President's schedule. Information has been provided by Institutional Research to all deans and each unit has their updated strategic plan. We could begin these meetings as early as the end of March.
4. Support for Conferences: Dr. Rabideau distributed a handout titled "Conference Support from the President", and asked the deans to share the information with department heads, who should share with faculty.
5. Dean Searches: Lynne Richardson has accepted the position of Dean of the College of Business and Industry, but this has to be approved by the IHL Board of Trustees. No announcement will be made until the board meets on March 14th.
6. FutureSTATE Reports: Dr. Rabideau distributed a list of FutureSTATE report sessions to be held during the month of March, the first one being this afternoon.

7. Buildings and Grounds: Please provide any information necessary about areas that need to be spruced up (including classrooms) to Mike McGrevey. This does not include technology requests. We plan to request an annual budget that will allow ITS to handle technology. Let us know about those needs.
8. IHL-Related: Over half the IHL institutions (including Ole Miss and Southern) count development courses and intermediate courses in students' GPA. IHL wants everyone to be consistent, but Dr. Rabideau does not think there would be a lot of support for that on our campus. New program requests at IHL - - no update on that at this time.
9. Classroom/Lab Safety Issues: Ruth Prescott stated that it is important that any accidents/safety issues occurring in labs/classes should be reported to the Dean and the Provost immediately. A recent accident was not reported promptly. Also, please insure that safety features are used.
10. Other Items:
  - Dean Nichols reported that at the Conference on Tourism, MSU received an achievement award for the restoration of the Riley Center. We continue to attract popular events in Meridian.
  - Jeanne Swafford reported that Faculty Senate sent out a survey about faculty confidence in administrators and the results will be distributed soon.
  - Dean Hollingsworth reported that COBI hopes to have a new dean soon. J. P. Shim is taking 25-30 students to South Korea to tour five universities.
  - Dean Blackburn reported that the NCATE visiting team is on campus and the final meeting is this Wednesday. Our brass ensemble has been invited to China, and funds will be provided by China.
  - Lynn Reinschmiedt reported that the CALS Associate Dean's office has been relocated to Bost to be closer to the Dean.
  - Ruth Prescott reported that Dean Blackburn chairs the Dean of Meridian search committee. Provost Rabideau led meetings on the campus with faculty, staff, and the search committee. If you have nominations, we would be very pleased to receive them. Dean Nichols is retiring on June 30.
  - Vice President Schulz reported that he has started some list-servs to assist faculty in grant opportunities.
  - Lee Weiskopf reported that this is his last meeting and thanks the Deans council for allowing him to serve. Caroline Adams is the new Vice President for Student Association and will serve on this Council.
  - Dean West reported that the Construction program has been approved. Our Interior Design Program received verbal notification of approval of six years of accreditation, but no official word yet.

Deans Council Minutes

March 5, 2007

Page 2

- Dean Oldham sent out a survey through Phi Beta Kappa application process. We see how few female faculty members we have at the full professor level. Dr. Lynn Cossman in Sociology has developed a web-based survey to work on this. This is a national instrument used at other institutions to get comparative information.
- Dean Person reported that Superrecruitment Weekend for fifty outstanding juniors and seniors is scheduled for April 13 and 14.