

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**September 15, 2006**

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Dinetta Karriem (for Richard Blackburn), Frances Coleman, Jerry Gilbert, Kent Hoblet, Danny Hollingsworth, George Hopper, Nick Nichols, Phil Oldham, Bill Person, Kirk Schulz, Jeanne Swafford, Vance Watson, Lee Weiskopf, and Jim West. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Butch Stokes, Colin Scanes, and Mike Rackley.

1. Academic Operating policies:
  - AOP 13.06 - Sabbatical Leave for Faculty Members of State Institutions of Higher Learning: All revisions are consistent with board policy. The policy was unanimously approved without further discussion.
  - AOP 13.23 - Faculty Workload: The revision suggested by Faculty Senate is not acceptable to the Provost or to the deans, as it seems to take the privilege and responsibility away from the department head. There was a friendly amendment to revise the document, then it will go back to Deans Council and back to Faculty Senate. This was approved.
2. Maymester: Dr. Gilbert distributed a draft calendar for Maymester. Saturday class days are necessary in order to meet required minutes and also complete Maymester by Memorial Day. A memo will be forthcoming regarding compensation for the Maymester, distribution of revenues, dealing with 12-month faculty teaching, and enrollment requirements for graduate as well as undergraduate classes.
3. Dr. Rabideau reported that at a recent meeting of IHL provosts USM raised a question about our building construction science program, as well as requesting a copy of our geosciences program.
4. Promotion and Tenure: Dr. Rabideau distributed a document titled "Questions About Faculty Activity and Promotion & Tenure" and led a discussion concerning promotion and tenure issues.
5. Vice President Scanes' items:
  - Deans need to know Information about every 25 or 26 account. That is an interesting area at the moment.
  - Last year was a record year for research awards. The first two months of this year were very strong.
  - In Promotion and Tenure review, if a faculty member is a co-principal investigator on a contract, it would be good to specify the amount of money that person controls. This is important information for an external reviewer.
6. Dr. Rabideau stressed that information presented in Promotion and Tenure dossiers must be accurate, and we should strive to catch errors (e.g., Co-Principal Investigators listed who were not Co-Principal Investigators; grants implied to be competitive when they are not; conferences listed as refereed when they are not refereed).
7. Dr. Rabideau said since our web-sites are an important part of our recruiting, they must be user-friendly. Navigation of attractive and dynamic web-sites is very important and we are

working on a project to be completed perhaps by our student workers. This would help us to know how effective and attractive our web-sites are.

8. Other items:

- Dean Nichols reported that the Riley Center opening was an extraordinary event.
- Dean Person reported an increase in graduate enrollment for the fall.
- Dean Hopper said Forest Resources is working on their accreditation review, which is scheduled every 10 years. They are working on their self-study now and will have a review team on campus during spring 2007. On September 16, CFR will host their back to school barbecue. All deans are invited to attend.
- Dean Hoblet reported that their accreditation review is coming up. This week we will have our college awards day, with the President and Dr. Watson presenting awards. We will have a speaker from Animal Planet.
- Dinetta Karriem reported for Education that they are going through their accreditation process. Dean Blackburn is presently at a national conference in Washington.
- Dean Coleman reported that very soon allocations to departments will be going out. The Library receives requests for most of the accreditations. Please watch for the number of journals that report "access to". We have access to lots of the journals via the web-site.
- Dr. Watson reported that they are presently working on testimony for Legislature, for the College Board and separately budgeted units meet on Wednesday in Jackson. A faculty member in Agriculture, Dan Peterson, has published in *Science*.
- Butch Stokes said the Registrar's Office completed their 5-year review in February and have now been invited to present their registration system at the Southeastern Association of Registrars at the American Association of Registrars' Meeting. We have finished phase one implementation of imaging system and are beginning to image incoming transcripts. We will begin sending and receiving electronic transcripts in a second phase.
- Dean Hollingsworth said that the renovation and addition to McCool continues and is ahead of schedule. They are scheduled to be in the building in June 2007. Our 5-year report in preparation for accreditation is due in 2007. The college continues to work with programs in Armed Forces. We have been selected for a program with Columbus Air Force Base with our undergraduate program. After solicitation from all IHL institutions, they liked our on-line MBA program. Dr. Binkley's involvement in that was acknowledged.
- Dean West said they have turned in their self-study for interiors in connection with their accreditation visit. The site visit is the first week of November. FEMA has requested one proposal per state from five states. Our proposal deadline is October 20 and the team leader is Fred Carl. One of our faculty members recently was invited to lunch with President Bush.
- Dean Schulz reported that Engineering has 225 PhD students, up from 182 last fall, and 150 the fall before that. Our goal is 300 by 2010. Our second Engineering Day was on Saturday and we had 425 in attendance, with alumni from the 1940s to present. The first SEC Engineering Deans' meeting was Wednesday in Atlanta.

- Dean Oldham reported that a recent visit on the Phi Beta Kappa initiative resulted in good insight and was very encouraging. Leslie Bauman is working on that application. One of our new faculty in Biological Sciences, Jim Smith, has an article in *Science*.
- Ruth Prescott said Constitution Day is Friday at 9:30 in the Grisham Room of the Library. Attorney General Hood will speak and we will have a panel of students who are veterans of the war in Iraq. Please attend if you can.
- Jerry Gilbert said we are working on scheduling technology classrooms, but 10:00 to 2:00 classes are difficult to accommodate. We are thinking about scheduling some classes outside that prime time.
- Dr. Rabideau reported that the planning document has lots of information in it. We are asked to look at how classes are scheduled.
- Mike Rackley said Banner will be taken down on Friday at 6:00 PM for a series of upgrades, and should be down for about 48 hours.