

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**October 17, 2005**

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Frances Coleman, Brian Engelland (for Sara Freedman), Jerry Gilbert, Jim Shepard (for George Hopper), Sue Minchew (for Richard Blackbourn), Phil Oldham, Ruth Prescott, Nancy Reichert, Roger King (for Kirk Schulz), Lynn Reinschmiedt (for Vance Watson), Jim West, and Peter Wood. Also present were: Laura Crittenden (for Mark Binkley), Gary Pike, Mike Rackley and Dennis Sankovich.

1. Enhancing Graduate Education at MSU:  
Vice President Colin Scanes distributed a draft report from a committee chaired by Dr. Rabideau, and made up of Jerry Gilbert, Bill Person, and Colin Scanes. The committee is studying whether we have sufficient PhD programs and other doctoral programs in areas of high student demand. Some majors are not packaged with minors. We are not doing enough in the way of marketing. We need to think in terms of how to recruit the best and brightest as doctoral students. We need substantial support from the deans. This report is in draft form, and we ask for input from the deans. Send any responses to Peter Rabideau and Colin Scanes.
  
2. Riley Center presentation  
Dennis Sankovich, Executive Director of Meridian Special Projects, made a presentation concerning the Marks Rothenberg and Opera House. The Riley Center is a place for social interaction including: center for performing arts (1,000 seat grand opera house, 200+ seat studio theater), education programming, conference center (30,000 square foot conference space, 4 floors, 16 rooms), social center, center for development and change. We plan 40 to 50 presentations a year. Rooms can be set up in a variety of ways in order to accommodate needs. A good meeting size would be from 500 to 1000 and Meridian has hotels to accommodate these numbers. Opening date is planned in August 2006. A price scheme is being developed.
  
3. Intersession

Dr. Rabideau stated that he spoke briefly with Faculty Senate and has met with UCCC and we are implementing intersession in January 2006, with about 12 courses, some involving study abroad. A web-page has been created and can be accessed from the MSU web-site. Dr. Rabideau has researched how other institutions handle intersession and we are exploring other options for the future. Among those options is scheduling intersession at a time when the length of the intersession could be expanded to 2.5 to 3 weeks rather than the 2 weeks we have scheduled in January. Dr. Rabideau asked Tim Chamblee, chair of UCCC, to establish a subcommittee to look at all the possible options. Jerry Gilbert and Butch Stokes will serve on that subcommittee.

4. Other Items:

- Dr. Scanes shared a draft proposal of financial awards for faculty for research and service. We hope to implement this for calendar year 2006, and will make an announcement prior to that time. The key will be bringing in grants. It is anticipated that 2/3 of the awards will come from unit overhead and 1/3 will come from the Office of Research. Dr. Scanes requested input from the Deans Council. This will recognize financially the most active people.
- Dr. Wood reported that the Faculty Senate will request assistance from the deans and provost to implement the post tenure review policy. This has been assigned to a Senate committee. Dr. Rabideau asked that the committee send questions to the Provost as there may also be some legal issues.