

Deans Council Minutes
November 7, 2005

Members present: Peter Rabideau, Chair; Cory Carter, Frances Coleman, Sara Freedman, George Hopper, Richard Blackburn, Phil Oldham, Nick Nichols, Ruth Prescott, Kirk Schulz, Vance Watson, Jim West, and Peter Wood. Also present were: President Lee, Mark Binkley, Colin Scanes, Butch Stokes, and Nancy Reichert.

Dr. Rabideau began by passing around an announcement concerning the Faculty Forum on November 22, 2005. Dr. Blannie Bowen is the guest speaker for this event. Dr. Rabideau gave a brief description of Dr. Bowen's background.

President Lee:

There was an NCAA certification visit this past week. NCAA has it's own accreditation. COBI has a review coming up in the next few weeks. Academic records of student athletes are incredibly impressive.

We are working on student assistance to counties affected by hurricane Katrina. We have about 1,500, Southern has about 10,000. MSU is being encouraged to state their needs to the government. Governor Barbour told President Lee he hopes to see 50 to 60 million go to higher education. Mississippi will get some bill for the state's portion of FEMA. The state budget is going to be of some concern. MSU needs to use their resources wisely.

President Lee stated that MSU is going to start recognizing those that excel.

There will be three variables:

- a. External funding -decent measure of our ability to be competitive. (Ex. English will not keep up with Chemical Engineering.)
- b. Scholarship
- c. Credit hour production

Not all compensation has to be monetary. We can reward with notes, etc. Make sure we do everything to get MSU ranked in importance to state. Better thank those people who are truly excelling. President Lee is committed to doing this. Awards need to be big enough that people will work for them.

1. Departmental and College Performance Measures and Expectations

Dr. Rabideau asked the deans to meet with the department heads and ensure that everyone was on the same page. Department heads need to discuss expectations and approvals to faculty. Underperforming departments need to develop a corrective action plan. A discussion ensued concerning qualifications for review of faculty. (Ex. type of journals, books, number of publications, amount of funding brought in, group work vs. independent work, etc.) Dr. Rabideau passed out a handout concerning measures and expectations.

2. IHL Program Review

Dr. Rabideau handed out review of institutional programs not meeting the APR "student demand" criteria. There will be further discussion on this topic at a later date.

3. UALR Assessment-Dr. Linda Musun

Dr. Linda Musun is the Associate Provost at University of Arkansas-Little Rock. She reviewed the process that UA-Little Rock has gone through concerning assessment. The response from faculty there has been positive. Their culture changed from one of compliance to incorporation. She recommends creating a conversation about assessment, not a confrontation. Each department and college has an assessment committee. There is also a University wide assessment committee of which Dr. Musun is the head. She believes all three committees are needed for assessment to be successful. To create spaces for assessment, the University holds an Annual Assessment Expo-Core Curriculum General Education. They also have an Assessment Exemplary award of \$1000.

4. Other Items:

- Butch Stokes handed out information for commencement and how many ushers he needs from each department.