

Deans Council Minutes
October 20, 2003

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Glenn Steele (for Wayne Bennett), Frances Coleman, Lou Capella (for Sara Freedman), Bob Karr, Nick Nichols, Phil Oldham, Ruth Prescott, Nancy Reichert, Roy Ruby, Clay Taylor, John Thomson, and Jim West. Also present were: Butch Stokes, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley, Jonathan Pote and Sandra Harpole.

1. Dr. Rabideau expressed his interest in connecting research and academic affairs and has invited Dr. Pote to attend the Deans Council meetings. Drs. Pote and Harpole shared the following agenda items:
 - Federal Relations Officer -- Marty Fuller will be our primary contact person, but our present firm is not aware of this yet. He will report to the president, but on a day-to-day basis, he will report to Pote and Watson.
 - Homeland Security Update -- Senator Cochran would like for MSU to be a site for one of the Homeland Security. A Request for Proposals should be coming out very soon - - we will respond and can broaden our proposals later. Some areas are: Economic analysis of major disasters, Training of first responders, Unmanned aerial vehicles, Rapid prototyping, Georesources area (voice analyses), Human area. We are making a list of expertise areas.
 - Centers and Institutes - We now have a new policy. Before a research professor can be hired, that person must have an academic home. The resume will go to the faculty and the department must decide whether the credentials allow that person to be in the department.
 - Dr. Pote distributed copies of the September report and breakdown and led a discussion regarding the report. (Breakdown via management units, Increase in research contracts and grants, ERC comparison from a single director with a single vision to more than one director, Increase in awards following the Vice President for Research Funding Programs initiated by Harpole and Pote, Rundown of proposals submitted from 1987 through 2003).
2. College Admission Requirements: Dr. Rabideau expressed concern that some admission requirements exceed graduation requirements for the university.
3. Capital Campaign fund raising needs:
 - Dr. Rabideau has been discussing "learning communities" with different groups and feels this is an important issue.
 - Architecture - ITS funding within the college.
 - Engineering - Professorships, chairs to attract faculty, fellowships for Ph.D. students, buildings, renovating some older structures.
 - Veterinary Medicine - Large scholarships for professional students, endowed chairs, endowed discretionary support for the college.
 - Forest Resources - Scholarships, chairs, space, classrooms.

- Meridian Campus – Funds for opera house, scholarships.
 - Arts and Sciences – Endowed faculty chairs, graduate fellowships, quantity and quality of space, research space, large multi-disciplinary building to focus on lower level math and science.
 - Libraries – Continuing pursuit of membership in ARL, additional funding for collection development and expand instructional media center (will need additional people and additional equipment).
 - Business and Industry – We have a donor and are working with the architect on expansion of building, with similar needs. Beyond that needs are: scholarships for incoming freshmen, graduate assistantships.
 - Education – Chairs, professorships, scholarships, a new band hall, consolidation of Education departments into one building on campus,
 - Faculty Senate – In “learning communities”, will there be funds to allow faculty to be part of that? Example: Faculty lounge for interaction among faculty.
4. Other items:
- There was discussion concerning funding for endowed chairs and the necessity of having available professor lines.
 - Honors students’ proposal for interdisciplinary course that would satisfy the humanities requirement.
 - Performing arts facility – Lee Hall renovation would help with this.
 - Florida model for capping number of hours for a bachelor’s degree.
 - Registrar Stokes distributed a list of events which will be coming up before the end of the semester. He discussed the schedule of timelines and asked for support in meeting those deadlines.
 - The search for Associate Provost has begun, with Dr. Sue Minchew being the chair of that committee. Please make suggestions and nominations to Dr. Minchew.