

**Deans Council Minutes**  
**April 1, 2002**

Members present: George Verrall, chairman; Wayne Bennett, Brad Carter, Frances Coleman, Walter Diehl, Sam Foster, Sara Freedman, Dennis Mitchell, George Rent, Roy Ruby, Clay Taylor, John Thomson, Vance Watson, and Parker Wiseman. Also present were: Butch Stokes (for Larry Dobbs), Julie Fulgham, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley and Helen Zuercher.

1. Helen Zuercher, Director of the International Services Office, lead a discussion and distributed a handout concerning Student and Exchange Visitor Program and events leading to the current requirements of international student record-keeping. She requested the assistance of each unit in insuring that the appropriate data are collected and maintained for international students. She will request the establishment of a steering committee and working groups to handle this situation. Brad Carter will talk with Zuercher about how we might handle these issues through university information systems.
2. Dr. Rent stressed that it is important that the Deans look very closely before approving additional on-campus employment of graduate students who are already on assistantships. We do not want to overload our students. This should be conveyed to department heads. Dr. Rent will take this issue to Graduate Council and ask them to review our policy.
3. Academic Operating Policies:
  - AOP 30.01 (Student Use of Computing Resources): This is a duplication of a policy in Student Affairs. After discussion, the AOP was tabled, to allow more research to determine whether this policy should be maintained by Academic Affairs along with other computing-related policies or In Student Affairs. Brad Carter and George Rent will review the policies and make a recommendation.
  - AOP 13.03 (Faculty Responsibilities): This policy was re-submitted for consideration after some revisions from the last Deans Council meeting were incorporated. Part of this policy brings us into compliance with a SACS requirement. The policy was approved unanimously. It will now go to the Faculty Senate.
  - AOP 13.07 (Academic Promotion and Tenure Policies and Procedures): After some discussion concerning the duplication of this AOP and the information in the Faculty Handbook, it was determined that an official document signed by the University President is necessary. An updated version will be brought back to the Deans Council for review.

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4. Dr. Rent distributed information from IHL concerning Academic Productivity Review along with the response submitted by Academic Affairs. We had programs listed for three-year probation, suspended admission and one program being phased out. We must respond by improving the productivity in these programs before the next report comes from IHL.

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5. Other Items:
  - We will schedule a three-hour meeting of the Deans with the architect to discuss the Master Plan in the near future. Waanda will contact the deans to schedule.
  - Wood College has lost its membership in SACS. Dr. Verrall has communicated to the Vice President at Wood that we will accept their credits through this semester, and no longer accept credits after that. They are re-applying for accreditation. Their main problem is lack of funding, but they are working to raise money.
  - Dr. Verrall cautioned the deans to be very careful in approving foreign travel if using gift and grant money or regular travel money. Department Heads and Deans should not be gone in May, due to the timing for budgets.
  - SACS site visit is scheduled for April 6-9, 2003 and they will expect the deans to be available during that time.
  - *The Daily Mississippian* (University of Mississippi newspaper) erroneously states that theirs is the only doctoral program in the state in Economics. This is incorrect, MSU also has that program.
  - Cal-Poly State University now offers classes in Biloxi, along with Tulane.
6. Dr. Verrall distributed "Draft Academic Affairs Questions for Discussion" and asked each member of the Deans Council to review this list of questions and share comments with Dr. Verrall. He said it could also be shared with Faculty Senate. After having time to review this document, we will schedule a meeting at a remote site to discuss it.
7. Parker Wiseman said that:
  - On April 10th, the Student Association will have its annual banquet and change of officers. Today is Wiseman's last meeting as Vice President of the Student Association, and he was elected President for the coming year.
  - The State of the Student Association held on March 19th turned out very well, with Bryce Griffis, Melvin, Ray, and Sebron Harrison speaking.
8. The dean searches are moving ahead appropriately. The Presidential search is moving ahead.
9. We will know more about budgets very soon. We hope the cut will be blunted by one-time money.