

**Associate Deans Council**  
**August 26, 2015**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Peter Ryan (Chair), Noel Addy, Amy Adkerson, Wes Ammon, Jeremy Baham, Rita Burrell, Tim Chamblee, Nancy Fultz, Becky Gardner, Greg Hall, Julia Hodges, Rebecca Long, Pat Matthes, Scott Maynard, Linda Morse, Ian Munn, Lee Napier, Sunny Patel, Gail Peyton, Lynn Reinschmiedt, Kevin Rogers, Emily Shaw, Rick Travis, James Warnock.

**Guest:** Lori Bruce

Peter Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in 4004 Lee Hall.

**1. Consideration of the minutes.**

Kevin Rogers made the motion and Rebecca Long seconded to approve the minutes of August 12, 2015. The motion was approved unanimously.

**2. Announcements.**

- Peter Ryan announced upcoming events: the General Faculty meeting will be held today, August 26 at 4:00 p.m. in the Union Ballroom; and the Men and Women of Color Summit to be held on August 27 – 28, 2015 at the Mill Conference. He encouraged attendance at these events.
- Peter Ryan expressed thanks for participation in the Freshman Convocation ceremony held on August 18, 2015 in the coliseum. There were over 2800 freshman students in attendance, representing 84% of total enrolled freshman students. He asked that students be encouraged to watch the video available on the myState main page. The committee will meet to discuss any issues of conflicts and/or needed improvements to the program. He stated that any suggestions to improve the program are also welcome in order to make this an important event for freshman students.
- Peter Ryan stated that the dual enrollment programs are going well with the Jackson area high schools.
- MSU's enrollment has a current total of 20,823 with a record for its largest ever freshman class.

**3. Recent Graduate Policy Changes/ Associate Deans for Graduate Studies**

- Lori Bruce, Dean of the Graduate School was present to discuss the recent changes that have been approved to the Graduate School Academic Policy and included in the Graduate Catalog. A handout of the policy modifications was provided along with a list of outstanding graduate admission applications from the Banner workflow.
  - The modifications have been made to the graduate policies related to academic probation, academic dismissal, academic performance, and provisional admission requirements.
  - Several of the changes in the policies included the change of “may” to “shall” which should result in consistent action taken toward graduate students in these situations. The academic probation section also includes clarification of a specific plan to follow the probationary status for a graduate student.
  - After discussion of grades and probation/ dismissal issues, Rick Travis proposed the possibility of the graduate school having the authority to notify students of their probationary or dismissal status. Such a change in procedure would have to be

reviewed by the Graduate Council with a recommendation to be sent forward to the Provost for consideration. Peter Ryan asked for a motion that the recommended proposal be brought before the Deans Council.

- Kevin Rogers stated that he would like feedback from department heads and if no issues or concerns, then he recommends (with a second from Ian Munn) that the proposal be forwarded on to the Deans Council. The motion was tabled.
- There was also discussion of possible training for associate deans on the process of graduate admissions such as approval flow, policies, and reports available in Banner.
- After discussion, it was decided to set one of the regular scheduled dates during September or October with an earlier meeting time for a lunch-training session to include the college associate deans only and any other members with workflow access who may need training.

#### **4. Chair's Report.**

Greg Hall reported that the subcommittee members are still working for final recommendations of intermediate course grades toward the grade point average calculations.

#### **5. AOPs. – none**

#### **6. Other Business**

- Rick Travis announced that Political Science and Public Administration Department Head, K.C. Morrison was awarded the Frank J. Goodnow Award for Distinguished Service at the American Political Science Association annual conference in San Francisco, CA. The award recognizes outstanding contributions of teachers, researchers and public servants.
- The MSU Student Association and Athletics will co-sponsor the Cowbell Yell with fans attempting the Guinness World Records title for the most people ringing cowbells simultaneously during the event on Sept. 10. Other upcoming activities include the Bulldog Bash to be held on Sept. 11, 2015.
- Noel Addy reported on the Faculty Senate's August meeting and noted endorsement for the President's statement on the flag.
- Scott Maynard announced upcoming Career Fairs and stated that over 330 employers have signed up to recruit on campus.
- Gail Peyton reported on the Fall 2015 Library workshops for faculty, staff and students. The Workshop Catalog has been sent out which also asks for patience over the next 18 months as Mitchell Memorial Library undergoes an expansion project of the 4<sup>th</sup> floor for the new suite for the Ulysses S. Grant Presidential Library.
- Greg Hall reported on the 10<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina and upcoming activities on the gulf coast.
- Jeremy Baham announced the grand opening of the new Veterans Business Outreach Center on Friday, August 28, 2015.
- Kevin Rogers also mentioned the partnership for the new outreach center and announced the College of Business BBQ picnic to be held on the Drill Field on Thursday, August 27 beginning at 5:30 p.m. as part of the college's Centennial Celebration.

- Linda Morse announced the Blackboard Faculty Day to be held on Sept. 1, 2015, and The Maroon Edition Housing and Residence event to be held tonight, August 26 on the Drill Field.
- The make-up session for the New Faculty Orientation will be held on September 11, 2015. The shorter session of the event will be held from 1 – 4:00 p.m.
- Rita Burrell announced an increase of graduate students in the Bagley College of Engineering.
- Lynn Reinschmeidt announced the Center for Distance Education’s Lunch & Learn seminar to be held on September 29, 2015.
- Amy Adkerson reported on the spring 2016 schedule packets being sent out to colleges. The schedules will be due back to the Registrar’s Office by September 17, 2015. She also noted that hard copies of the catalog are available and pick up times will be set up.
- Tim Chamblee announced the hiring of Christine Jackson as the new MSU Assistant Athletic Director of Academics.
- Peter Ryan reported that the National Student Exchange (NSE) program has 10 students attending MSU and noted a need to recruit students from MSU to participate.
- Peter Ryan encouraged members to send agenda items to bring forward of important issues for discussion or good news to share.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.