

Deans Council Minutes
January 11, 2016
3:00 PM
Presidents Conference Room, Lee Hall

In attendance: Julia Hodges, Richard Blackburn, Lori Bruce, Frances Coleman, John Dickerson, Greg Dunaway, Anastasia Elder, George Hopper, Chris Snyder, James Warnock (for Jason Keith), Joan Lucas, Sharon Oswald, Mike Rackley, Peter Ryan, Kent Hoblet, Jim West, Tim Chamblee, Allison Pearson, Roxie Raven

Others present: Cedric Gathings, Lynn Reinschmiedt, Judy Spencer, Amy Adkerson, Teresa Gammill (for David Shaw)

Minutes taken by: Lecrisha Nail

1. Upon a motion by Dr. Richard Blackburn and second by Dr. Sharon Oswald, the minutes of the December 14, 2015 meeting were approved unanimously with no edits. Agenda items were discussed:
2. Promotion and Tenure
 - a. Packets are due Friday, January 15th
 - b. Please make sure they are complete
3. Student Honor Code Council
 - a. Student Affairs Vice President reminds the deans to get the word out to faculty about serving on student honor code council.
4. Absence Reporting
 - a. Please remind faculty of the importance of tracking and reporting absences.
 - b. If using the attendance scanners, they have to be used consistently.
5. New Financial Literacy Coordinator
 - a. Position added to Financial Aid office in the fall to help currently enrolled students be more financially aware.
 - b. This will hopefully help enrollment by helping students manage the financial issues they may face.
 - c. John Daniels is the contact
6. Withdrawal Intervention
 - a. Looking for a better way to make contact with students who may be at risk for withdrawal.
 - b. We would like the electronic form to be able to direct the student to a withdrawal consultant.
 - c. Would this person be within each college or should we create a new position?
 - d. Dr. Lori Bruce asked if we were talking about graduate and undergraduate students. Yes, it would pertain to both.
 - e. Students are not aware of the impact this has on their financial aid.
 - f. Roxie Raven agreed that this is a good idea. The more information we can give the students the better.
 - g. Dr. Hodges asked Dr. Ryan to go back to the Associate Dean's Council to discuss.
7. Other – Opened to members
 - a. Mike Rackley
 - i. Implemented class assistant this semester in Banner. This designated person can help with entering class attendance and grades.
 - ii. Parent portal additions
 - I. Meal plan information

- II. Financial aid information
 - a. Dr. Hodges asked how many students receive financial aid?
- b. Allison Pearson
 - i. Reminded everyone that Terry Dale Cruse started as Head of Campus for Meridian. He will begin attending dean's council.
 - ii. Dr. Hodges welcomed Dr. Pearson to the Provost office.
- c. Peter Ryan
 - i. Mentioned the success of student support services.
 - I. He mentioned sometimes students are not aware of the student services that are available.
- d. Jim West
 - i. Interior Design competed in a regional competition and won. Now they are in the pool to attend the national competition. Public Affairs has been notified.
- e. Frances Coleman
 - i. Mentioned the opening of the library at the new Kress building in Meridian.
 - ii. The library is now the depository center of the southern literary trails collections.
- f. John Dickerson
 - i. Recruitment staff retreat was last Thursday and it went really well. Trying to improve partnership.
 - ii. Recruitment events are underway.
 - iii. Trying to get scholarship information out earlier. February 1st is the new target deadline.
- g. Chris Snyder
 - i. Some changes have been made to some of the top undergraduate scholarships.
 - I. Looking for faculty and student volunteers to review
- h. James Warnock
 - i. MSU Engineering distance graduate program was ranked number 7 in the country by U.S. News and World Report.
 - ii. This semester Engineering is offering the first MSU course at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College.
- i. Greg Dunaway
 - i. Dr. Dunaway mentioned his upcoming retirement in March and was very grateful to MSU for his years here.
 - ii. Rick Travis has been named Interim Dean for Arts and Sciences.
 - iii. Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Marilyn White Advising Center is coming up soon.
 - iv. Oktibbeha County Hospital has offered some scholarships for students
- j. Kent Hoblet
 - i. Interviews starting next week for the upcoming fall semester. February 18 the class will be selected.
 - ii. 85 graduating from CVM at May Commencement.
 - iii. An estate gift just matured that should be over \$7 million for CVM.
- k. Sharon Oswald
 - i. MSU's distance MBA was ranked 22nd in the nation.
 - ii. Major renovation of Taylor Auditorium
 - I. Security cameras will be installed
 - II. Please try to help keep the room clean
 - iii. Officially received keys to entrepreneurship center last Friday. The rest of furniture should be delivered soon.
- l. Richard Blackburn
 - i. James Patterson has doubled the amount of scholarships he is offering.

- ii. Elva K. Lance, the MSU band director, has been named the president elect of Phi Beta Mu international band fraternity.
 - m. Lori Bruce
 - i. In December the graduate school awarded over \$250,000 in recruitment grants and fellowships.
 - ii. Many more proposals submitted than were able to provide grants.
 - iii. Major gifts were given to the graduate school.
 - n. Tim Chamblee
 - i. Nothing to report
 - o. Roxy Raven
 - i. Student Association elections coming up in the next couple of weeks
 - I. Please encourage everyone to vote
 - p. Anastasia Elder
 - i. Faculty Senate executive meeting was held last week. Regular meetings begin this Friday.
 - ii. Looking at teaching evaluation performance.
 - q. Cedric Gathings
 - i. Monday is MLK, Jr. breakfast. This year a day of service has been added.
 - ii. The office of diversity gave 30 presentations during fall semester 2015.
 - r. George Hopper
 - i. Very busy with the start-up of the semester and promotion and tenure
 - ii. Complimented Greg Dunaway
 - s. Joan Lucas
 - i. Nothing to report
 - t. Lynn Reinschmidt
 - i. IHL approved two new programs to be offered by distance.
 - ii. Legislature approved MSU to be a member of SARA. This reduces the restrictions on distance learning and internships among different states.
- 8. Peter Ryan also mentioned the request from President Keenum to reactivate the Mortar Board Society. He asked for help identifying individuals to spearhead this.

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.