

**Deans Council Meeting
February 15, 2010**

Present: Glenn Steele (chair), Richard Blackburn, Frances Coleman, Lou D'Abramo, Jerry Gilbert, Robert Cooper (for Kent Hoblet), George Hopper, Meghan Millea, Melissa Mixon, Dave Breaux (for Gary Myers), Sarah Rajala, Paul Grimes (for Lynne Richardson), Peter Ryan, Jack Tucci, and Jim West. **Others present:** Mark Binkley, Tim Chamblee, Julie Fulgham, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley, David Shaw, and Sharon Nobles (for Butch Stokes).

1. **Announcements:**

- The E&I report will go out to the university and to the press on Wednesday. The university community will be able to view and make comments on individual recommendations.
- We have a contract for an architect to work on master plan for the university. Faculty, department heads, deans, administrators and staff will be involved and this will begin soon. Jim Jones has said if we know of accreditation issues directly related to facilities, he needs to be made aware of those issues.
- MSU will conduct fire drills during spring break, when students are not in class. Basic instructions and dates/times for drills will be shared prior to the drills. Each time an alarm sounds, we must respond as if it is an emergency and leave the building.

2. **Time limits for graduate degrees:** This increases PhD limit from 6 to 8 years after passing preliminary examinations. This was passed unanimously by Graduate Council, and Dr. D'Abramo asked for comments by Deans Council. This document is the same as previously viewed by Deans Council. Dr. D'Abramo also stated that the Graduate Council is presently working on a graduate student grievance procedure.

3. **Graduate Exit Survey:** Julie Fulgham distributed August graduation reports to each dean. At the completion of May, 2010 graduation information, we will have a full year of data. If departmental data is requested, let Dr. Gilbert know.

4. **Going Paperless:** Dr. Dave Breaux presented the steps used in Arts and Sciences for handling on-line course proposal forms. ITS has been very helpful in working on this. Dr. Chamblee reported that UCCC is trying to have a paperless meeting this month. Mike Rackley stated that ITS is anxious to assist as we see the tremendous potential to be more efficient and save us some money in the long run with this issue.

5. **Academic Operating Policy (AOP XX.XX - Academic Amnesty for Graduate Students:** Dr. Gilbert presented the proposal for a new AOP that was brought to Associate Deans Council by Dr. D'Abramo, for action from the Graduate School. This would enable graduates to have a second shot to attempt graduate school, after sitting out for five years. After some discussion, the Deans Council decided to table this until Dr. D'Abramo can be present for the discussion and questions.

6. **Other Items:**

- Dean Rajala expressed some concerns about the State Pride awards and the counting of faculty. After discussion, Dr. Steele stated that definition for State pride Awards is – department heads and equivalent positions would not be eligible.
- Dean Blackburn asked if there had been discussions of development implications once E&I recommendations have been made public. Dr. Steele stated that these are recommendations. Feedback will be received after the

recommendations are made public, then discussions will take place at those affected levels. Some academic issues can begin fairly quickly. Benchmarking has been started already.

- Meghan Millea stated that the Faculty Senate Spring Roundtable is scheduled for March 5 (half-day, 1:00 to 6:00 PM). The topics will be logistics of consolidation and benchmarking.

7. Reports:

- Dean West reported that
 - a. The Architecture, Art, and Design 6-year accreditation visit begins this week.
 - b. In one of the major architecture magazines, our School of Architecture was reported as one of the top six schools and one of the schools of community design. With 120 schools in the country, to be in two of five categories is an accomplishment for MSU.
- Dr. Chamblee reported that as a part of our accreditation process we have a national survey of student engagement for freshmen and seniors. He asked deans to have department heads encourage freshmen and seniors to respond. Our fifth year report is due March 15.
- Dr. Gilbert reported that the proposed textbook policy is before IHL and will probably be approved this week. This will be implemented in the fall.
- Dr. Millea stated that Faculty Senate is working on developing the confidence survey. Faculty Senate is also handling election of senators.
- Julie Fulgham reported that her office is working on three major reports: 5-year scholarly outcomes; Grade distribution reports; and December graduation survey results. They will be shared electronically.
- Dean Hopper reported that the College of Forest Resources has just completed the revision of the college strategic plan. An elected faculty committee worked on that, and it has been distributed electronically.
- Dean Coleman reported that the Library plans for a series of programs on copyright. Laura Gazaway from the University of North Carolina, is a known authority on copyright and the Library is working on a date for some workshops.
- Sharon Nobles reported that the Registrar's Office is almost ready to go to press with the Bulletin. The Registrar's Office is still working on fall schedule.