

Deans Council Minutes
July 6, 2009

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Sue Minchew (for Richard Blackbourn), Donna Clevinger, Harry Llull (for Frances Coleman), Lou D'Abramo, Jerry Gilbert, Kent Hoblet, George Hopper, Melissa Mixon, Linda Morse, Dave Breaux (for Gary Myers), Sarah Rajala, Lynne Richardson, and Jim West. Also present were: Mark Binkley, Tim Chamblee, Julie Fulgham, Teresa Gammill (for Glenn Steele), Amy Adkerson (for Butch Stokes), Jason Tiffin, David Fulton, and Amy Berryhill.

1. David Fulton made a presentation regarding the reading experience (Immersion Learning Experience). All freshmen are required to read "A Painted House" by John Grisham. Fulton discussed how the program will be handled (questions, e-mail clues, promotional items, rewards, clues about campus, etc.). Colleges are encouraged to plan activities associated with the book. This will be a way to get students interested in paying attention to campus and in doing some good works.
2. Budget: Dr. Rabideau led a discussion concerning the FY09 budget and how a 5% cut was handled, as well as proposed budget cuts for future years. Vice President for Finance and Administration Mike McGrevey was invited to join the meeting, and he shared an overview of the upcoming budgets.
3. Dr. Rabideau stated that he will soon distribute a memo asking for SECAC Leadership Program nominees. Last year, three MSU faculty were involved in this program. He thanked Dr. Harpole for her work with this group, and said that Dr. Jerry Gilbert has volunteered to be our representative for the coming year.
4. Dr. D'Abramo stated that he appreciated all the feedback on the Graduate Faculty document and changes have been made. This document has not gone back to the Graduate Council yet. The Deans were encouraged to share their concerns with Dr. D'Abramo and this will be on the next Deans Council agenda.
5. Dr. Gilbert stated that the Academic Operating Policies will appear on the next Deans Council agenda as well.
6. Dr. Rabideau stated that he will be out of the office on Wednesday through next Tuesday. He asked Deans to share any questions they may have on budget issues and to prioritize their budget recommendations.