

## Deans Council Minutes October 5, 2009

Members present: Peter Rabideau, chairman; Sue Minchew (for Richard Blackbourn), Frances Coleman, Lou D'Abramo, Jerry Gilbert, Kent Hoblet, Rubin Shmulsky (for George Hopper), Meghan Millea, Melissa Mixon, Gary Myers, Sarah Rajala, Lynne Richardson, and Jim West. Also present were: Charles Guest, Greg Bohach, Mary Alexander, Melanie Honeycutt and Butch Stokes.

1. Dr. Rabideau introduced Dr. Greg Bohach, the new Vice President for Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine, and welcomed him to campus.
2. **Academic Operating Policies**
  - AOP 12.11 - Degree Requirements - Undergraduate: This policy was approved by Associate Deans Council, brought to Deans Council and changes were recommended. Changes have been made and this is submitted for Deans Council approval. After a motion to approve, there was no further discussion and the policy was approved without opposition.
  - AOP 13.13 - Extended Leave Guidelines for Tenure and Workload Modification: This was previously the leave policy, but was replaced by Human Resources leave policy. It now deals with stopping tenure clock, extended leave policy for illness, child birth, etc. This proposed policy has been approved by Associate Deans Council and Faculty Senate. Dr. Rabideau asked Mr. Guest to particularly look carefully at this policy to insure that it is not in violation of Board policy. This policy will appear on the next Deans Council agenda.
3. **2009 Affirmative Action Placement Goals Accomplishments and 2010 Affirmative Action Plan** - - Ms. Melanie Honeycutt and Dr. Mary Alexander discussed the Affirmative Action Plan and reviewed progress made under the 2009 plan in terms of meeting placement goals. Law requires MSU to have an affirmative action plan and it is important to keep the key management aware of the plan.
4. **Budget** - - Dr. Rabideau gave an update on the budget situation and said the president's priorities are support of students and faculty; retention; and scholarships. The president has formed an Efficiencies and Innovation Committee, to be co-chaired by Dr. Rabideau and Mike McGrevey. The Faculty Senate is in the process of electing members from each college. After October 19, the president will meet with the committee and deliver the

charge. Dr. Rabideau led a discussion concerning the committee, and Dr. Rabideau will carry the deans' input to the committee.

5. **United Way** - - Dean Richardson gave an update on United Way. The goal is \$115,000. MSU students have raised \$12,240, and other seven units are presently at about \$20,000 collectively. She encouraged participation.
6. **Other Items**
  - Butch Stokes distributed information concerning commencement to be held on December 11. As of Friday, we only have 621 students signed up to participate in commencement, and will have only one ceremony.
  - Butch also gave an update on events for the Investiture scheduled for Friday, October 16. Currently about 300 people are scheduled to participate in the processional, which begins at 12:00 noon, from Swalm to Lee Hall.
  - Dean Richardson invited the Deans Council to the public forum on Tuesday, October 20, to explain the Department of Education new labels and accountability measures. This will be held at the Sportsplex at 7:00 PM.
  - Dean Coleman stated that the Library was looking closely at on-line publications. Reports will be forthcoming to the deans and the Provost.
  - Dean Rajala announced that the search for the Vice President for Research and Economic Development is progressing, and have identified four finalist candidates. Interviews are being scheduled in November. Candidates include: Dr. James Rankin from Ohio University, Dr. David Shaw from MSU, Dr. Allan Myerson from Illinois Institute of Technology, and Dr. Jennifer Curtis from University of Florida.
  - Dr. Mixon invited participation at the homecoming breakfast with the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine.
  - Dr. Richardson also invited participation at the homecoming breakfast with the College of Business.