

Deans Council Minutes
November 4, 2002

Members present: George Verrall, chairman; Wayne Bennett, Brad Carter, Frances Coleman, Sam Foster, Nick Nichols, Phil Oldham, Linda Pote, Ruth Prescott, George Rent, Roy Ruby, John Thomson, Vance Watson, and Jim West. Also present were: Butch Stokes, Julie Fulgham, Charles Guest, Mike Rackley and Leslie Bauman.

1. Dr. Ruby reported that we plan a Community College Achievement Day this spring, similar to the event we have for high school students with 26 or above ACT, but this will include no testing. This must have the deans' support in order to be successful.
2. We will schedule times when each dean can meet with the Vice Presidents to discuss enrollment (where we are and what we want to do). We will discuss entrance requirements by department. In an effort to maintain MSU's superior relationships, with junior colleges, we will resume a long-standing conference with community college administrators this summer on our campus.
3. Dr. Verrall reported that the Student Association has brought forward a number of issues: (1) Forgiveness policy, (2) Students repeating courses, (3) Fall break.
4. AOP 11.12 -- Guidelines for Certificate Programs: This revised policy provides more guidelines than we have had in the past. Details regarding admission procedures and record keeping for certificate programs will be developed by the Office of Academic Affairs, the Registrar, and Admissions. The policy was approved without opposition and will be sent on to the Faculty Senate for review.
5. Dr. Verrall led a discussion about the future role of the Division of Continuing Education. What do the deans want Continuing Education to do for the colleges? There are several models that we need to look at, but we must see what best fits us in reaching our students.
6. Other Items:

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- USM's student newspaper had an article about "Grade Inflation about to Burst". We need to look at grade inflation. Grade distribution by college is important.
- Encourage faculty to participate in the Fall 2002 student evaluations.
- We did not need to interrupt our power, but the planning process is underway for the generator. We hope to have this in place by next summer.
- Brad Carter is leading an effort to define who our faculty are. We will send these definitions to you for comments.
- We have a problem with computer lab accessibility. We have an obligation to handicapped students to provide whatever they need to be successful in class.
- Dr. Verrall and Gaddis Hunt are working on a central location to report problems such as lights out in a classroom, broken desks, etc.
- Linda Pote asked Dr. Verrall to mention Continuing Education discussion when he speaks to Faculty Senate on Friday.
- Wayne Bennett thanked various people who assisted with the successful ABET accreditation visit.
- John Thomson said they had an accreditation visit last week. Vance Watson and President Lee assisted and we are optimistic.
- Sam Foster reported that mid-term evaluations for the Department of Forest Products were approved until 2007.
- Frances Coleman said the meeting with the Historian of the U. S. Senate was a good one. The ARL visit will be November 12-14, and we are planning a meeting on November 5 in preparation for that site visit.
- Leslie Bauman said the report is on the public website. You can go to the main web page and access the current draft. We are close to a final draft. When you review it, please call Bauman if you do not agree.