

**Associate Deans Council**  
**March 28, 2012**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Present: Peter Ryan (Chair), Jeremy Baham, Ray Berryhill, Royce Bowden, Karen Coats, Robert Cooper, Diane Daniels, Walter Diehl, Greg Dunaway, Randy Follett, Nancy Fultz, Becky Gardner, Cynthia Hill ( for Butch Stokes), Terry Jayroe, Mitzy Johnson, Rick Kaminski, Dinetta Karriem, David Lewis, Patricia Matthes, Scott Maynard, Elton Moore, Linda Morse, Gail Peyton, Mike Rackley, Kevin Rogers, James Scheiner, Justin Watts, Donny Banerjee.

Guests: Haleston Hales, Sara Vance, Nikki Robinson.

Peter Ryan called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in 611 Allen Hall.

**1. Consideration of the minutes.**

Randy Follett made the motion and Elton Moore seconded to approve the minutes of March 14, 2012 with noted additions – Honors College will now be requiring entering freshmen to take an Honors course *during their first semester at MSU*; and correct title to - The Office of Institutional *Research* and Effectiveness. The motion was approved unanimously.

Peter Ryan introduced the newly elected Student Association Attorney General, Donny Banerjee who will be replacing Justin Watts. He thanked Justin and the Student Association for their service over the past year.

**2. Announcements.**

- Peter Ryan reported on the past weekend's tragic shooting incident on campus that resulted in the loss of a student.
  - a. He complimented the cooperation of the campus, city, and county police along with federal agents. All suspects have been apprehended and are now in custody and charged with a capital offense.
  - b. The President and other university officials met with students and parents. Dr. Ryan noted that they did a great job relating to the students during this difficult time.
  - c. Jeremy Baham noted that there have been false rumors that the doors at Evans Hall were not working. He stated that the suspects were invited into the residence hall. He also noted that anyone is free to call the Dean of Students office for information regarding the incident.
  - d. General Counsel has advised all to avoid communicating about the incident via any electronic or written form during the investigation.
- Peter Ryan announced several end of the year functions.
  - a. The Offices of Vice President for Research and Economic Development and the Vice President for Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine will be hosting the Annual Research Awards Banquet on April 3 at the Hunter Henry Center.
  - b. The Society of Scholars induction ceremony will be held on March 27 in Tully Auditorium, Thompson Hall.
  - c. The Gamma Sigma Delta inaugural spring seminar will be held on March 29 at 3:00 at Tully Auditorium in Thompson Hall. Dr. James Giesen, professor in the Department of History, will speak on the topic of the establishment of the Morrill Act. A reception will follow in the lobby.
  - d. Elton Moore announced the College of Education annual Faculty/Student Research Forum will be held in Bost Auditorium on March 30. Information and registration can be found under the Research tab on the College of Education web page.
  - e. Peter Ryan stated that Karen Coats has unofficially accepted the position as the new Associate Dean of the Graduate School.

- f. Karen Coats announced that the Graduate Student Association Research Symposium will be held on April 14, 2012 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in McCool Hall. She noted that there are a remarkable number of oral and paper presentations. Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week will be held April 2 – 5, 2012. There is a list of events in the foyer of Allen Hall and on Banner.
- g. James Schiener announced that Kevin Rogers has been promoted to Associate Dean in the College of Business.
- h. Linda Morse announced several events:
  - i. The President will announce the Maroon Edition 2012 book choice on April 9 at 2:00 p.m. in the Grisham Room in the Library. The first 50 people who sign in will receive a free copy of the book.
  - ii. The Center for Teaching and Learning will hold seminars on April 4 and 5 in the IMC room in the Library. The Brown Bag series on “Does Teaching Still Matter” will be held on April 11 in the Grisham Room in the Library at 11:30 a.m.
  - iii. New Faculty are encouraged to attend the events on April 4, April 11, and April 27, 2012.

3. **Chair’s Report.** None

4. **AOP 12.20 Academic Forgiveness – Discussion**

Sara Vance and Nikki Robinson, Student Association Senators, and SA Vice President Haleson Hales presented the case for proposed changes to the AOP 12.20 Academic Forgiveness and a copy of the SA Resolution on this policy to the council.

- a. The current policy allows an undergraduate student to retake up to two courses not to exceed eight credit undergraduate semester hours in which the original grade of a B, C, D, or F will remain on the transcript but not counted towards the student’s GPA.
- b. The data on current forgiveness policy usage shows that the number of students with one retake course totals 6783 and the number of students with two retake courses totals 4627 since the inception of the policy.
- c. The Student Association researched peer institutions’ similar academic policies and reported how these policies differed on the maximum hours/courses and the effect of academic forgiveness on GPA.
- d. The Student Association resolution stated whereas if AOP 12.20 allowed for one additional course and an appropriate increase in hours of coursework to the current policy, academic forgiveness would allow students to have a much wider variety of coursework to be retaken.
- e. After further discussion, Haleson Hales asked the council for a motion to consider any of the proposed changes as presented by the Student Association or leave the current policy as is stated.
- f. After failure of a motion, Peter Ryan thanked the Student Association representatives for their interest and presentation to the council.
- g. The current policy will be presented back to the Deans Council for consideration with no further revisions.

5. **AOP 32.01 Mississippi State University Library.**

The policy was tabled to be reviewed early next month at the request of the Library Dean, Frances Coleman.

6. **New Business.** None

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.**