

## **7/2/08 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes**

**In attendance:** Dr. Sheila Adams, Angie Atkins, Lucy Betcher, Dr. Gary Bouse, Marty Brock, Bryant Cook, Dr. Eric Daffron, James Denney, Carol Frazier, Gail Gunter, Andrea Holcombe, Robin Holliman, Dr. Joyce Hunt, Dr. Hal Jenkins, Dr. Sandra Jordan, Dr. Dorothy Kerzel, Dr. Claudia Limbert, Cay Lollar, Carla Lowery, Nora Miller, Tonya Moak, Sirena Parker, Lamar Peacock, Winn Perdue for Dan Miller, Dr. Tom Richardson, Mary Margaret Roberts, Perry Sansing, Dr. Wahnee Sherman, Elbert Spruill, Amy Swingle, Eileen Van Der Weele, and Cathy Young.

**Absent:** Kristen Barnes, Kate Brown, Roger Busby, Cassie Derden, Melanie Freeman, Dave Haffly, Larry Jones, Scott McKenzie, Dr. Barbara Moore, Brandon Newsome, Anika Perkins, Dr. Bridget Pieschel, Rhonda Thomas, Dr. Tom Velek, Dr. Bucky Wesley, and Sam Wise.

Dr. Claudia Limbert called the meeting to order.

The minutes from May 2008 were approved.

### **University Update -**

Dr. Limbert said Dr. Sandra Jordan and Nora Miller gave an excellent report to the campus this week about the rebalancing funding formula IHL has initiated. The session was well attended. There are plans to do another one this fall. All are encouraged to attend.

### **Academic Affairs Update -**

Dr. Sandra Jordan reported several promotions and hires in her department: Dr. Eric Daffron, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dr. Tom Velek, Director of Honors College and Study Abroad; James Denney, Director of Grants and Contracts; and Scott McKenzie, Interim Director of the Culinary Arts Institute.

She announced some good news: Alex Stelioes-Wills and his art students have completed the mural in downtown Columbus that will hopefully be the first of a series of murals; Dr. Michael Burger's new book has received positive critical reviews; Dr. Hal Jenkins and the Education Department have received word that the new master's degree program has been approved and a class for it has been added for the second summer term and a cohort for the fall; nursing has received a new grant; and two congressional grants are going forward.

Dr. Jordan said the Academic Council and Deans Council are working on three new initiatives: Turning Point, an alternative to suspension; Student Success Mentor Program to assist new students; and Early Alert to catch negative learning behaviors and habits before students are in academic trouble.

She mentioned that a new certification program for adult learners will be available in public administration and ethics.

She updated the group on IHL's strategic initiative to increase undergraduates. She and others are working to finalize the university's stretch goal numbers in the various categories. These are aggressive goals, and the state will hold the university accountable for this goal.

She said Academic Affairs will have an Assessment Day to coordinate the university's efforts for assessment. Information will be on the website.

### **Finance and Administration Update -**

Nora Miller reported that 2009 budget will be loaded in Banner over the next few days.

She said the university requested \$833,039 from IHL to address the Painter Hall renovations that could not be covered by the HUD grant and to address the troublesome air handlers in Kincannon. Only \$200,000 was received which is not enough to redo the HVAC in Painter. HUD has given approval to change the original scope of work in Painter to cover some HVAC issues, painting the interior, some interior renovations and adding whiteboards, carpet, blackout blinds, furniture, etc. Since this grant was aimed at preserving and making historic buildings more functional, other minor repair and renovation projects such as new carpet in McDevitt Hall, exterior paint for Callaway Hall, adding a stand alone boiler for Stovall House and taking it off of the steam tunnel, repairing some termite damage in Whitfield, and hopefully reroofing Shattuck will be included. The work on Painter and McDevitt should be complete before the beginning of the Fall semester.

The interior repairs and renovation of the Fine Arts Building are 67% complete with an expected on-time completion this fall.

Neel Shaffer is finalizing plans and cost estimates for storm drainage and street repairs. The increase in petroleum costs has a huge impact on the cost of asphalt, so she will have to see how far this project can be stretched.

The legislative R & R visit that was scheduled for May had to be postponed because of the legislative special session that was called for that week. The meeting has been rescheduled for July 30. The university's request is focused on continuation funding for fire suppression projects, funding and activity on Poindexter, construction funding for the library renovation and expansion and preplanning for the renovations in Shattuck that would allow Culinary Arts to expand, providing additional classroom space and a teaching laboratory/restaurant.

### **Institutional Advancement Update -**

Dr. Gary Bouse announced that Lisa Gooden has been hired as the Assistant Director of Alumni Relations. She will begin July 28. With her arrival, the Alumni Office will be fully staffed for the first time in over two years. Alumni mailed over 3,200 personalized letters to 2009 reunion classes to invite them to Homecoming, which is scheduled for April 17-19, 2009. Alumni recently participated in Mississippi Picnic in the Park in New York in early June. The Class of 1949 luncheon and mini-reunion was held in Jackson last week. Nashville-area alumni recently

met and completed a service project with The Next Door, a program that serves women recently released from prison. The Nashville alumni plan to continue to work with the organization.

Andrea Holcombe has been promoted from Director of Planned Giving to Executive Director of Development. Her former position is being redesigned and is in the process of being posted. Interviews will begin next week for the filling of the Research Assistant position in the Development Office. The draft copy of the Honor Roll of Donors was mailed within the last couple of weeks. The MUW Foundation has selected Secretary William Cohen as the 2008 Welty Gala speaker. He has served as a Republican in the United States House of Representatives and Senate and has served on President Clinton's cabinet as Secretary of Defense. The Welty Gala is scheduled for Thursday, September 25.

Rachel Cherry recently left MUW as the Graphic Designer to relocate to Birmingham, Alabama, with her new husband. Interviewing for this position is currently underway.

He updated the group on the work of the Communications Committee, which was created by Dr. Limbert as a result of the MUW 20/20 process. The committee had its first meeting on June 13. The Committee agreed to move into subcommittees to specifically study a list of items detailed in Dr. Limbert's White Paper response. Those subcommittees are in the process of meeting, and the entire committee hopes to have its work completed by the end of this calendar year.

### **Student Services Update -**

In the absence of Dr. Bucky Wesley, Dr. Wahnee Sherman mentioned that the new student and transfer student orientation sessions are finished. The numbers were down some, so another joint session will be held later this month.

Micah White, who served as Assistant Director for Student Involvement, has left. This position will not be filled due to budget cuts. The responsibilities of this position will be farmed out among those in Student Life. There is an open community director position too.

The Summer Bridge program is currently in process with 15 students participating.

She and several others have attended IHL-required behavioral intervention training. Information about this will be posted on MUW's website soon so people will know how to file reports.

### **Police Department/Human Resources Update -**

Mr. Perry Sansing said Calvin Sellers will be leaving his position of Chief of Police at the end of this week. A reception for him is scheduled for tomorrow. He has been at MUW for eight years and has done a great deal to improve the department and the safety of the campus. Lamar Peacock will serve as Interim Police Chief until the search has been completed.

### **Faculty Senate Update -**

Ms. Cathy Young had no report.

**Staff Council Update -**

Elbert Spruill reported that the staff luncheon held May 12 went well. July is membership drive month for Staff Council, and new officers will be selected soon.

**SGA Update -**

No representative was present, but Dr. Limbert mentioned that Kristen Barnes and Brandon Newsome of SGA visited her during her open door session this week concerning their plans for the coming year.