

4/9/10 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Dr. Sheila Adams, Angie Atkins, Kristen Barnes, Dr. Eric Daffron, James Denney, Cassie Derden, Melanie Freeman, Gail Gunter, Dave Haffly, Andrea Holcombe, Dr. Hal Jenkins, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, Larry Jones, Dr. Bill Mayfield, Dan Miller, Nora Miller, Tonya Moak, Brandon Newsome, Sirena Parker, Dr. Bridget Pieschel, Dr. Tom Richardson, Suzanne Ries, Sarah Summers for Robin Holliman, Dr. Scott Tollison, Dr. Bucky Wesley, and Cathy Young.

Absent: Lana Allen, Dr. Mark Bean, Dr. Suzanne Bean, Lucy Betcher, Dr. Gary Bouse, Roger Busby, Phillip Cockrell, Bryant Cook, Carol Frazier, Jessica Harpole, Dr. Claudia Limberts, Cay Lollar, Kennedy Meaders, Anika Perkins, Mary Margaret Roberts, Perry Sansing, Eileen Van Der Weele, Dr. Tom Velek, and Sam Wise.

In the absence of Dr. Claudia Limbert who was attending Ole Miss' inauguration of Dr. Dan Jones, Dr. Hal Jenkins called the meeting to order.

Minutes -

The minutes from the March 2010 meeting were approved.

Academic Affairs Update -

Dr. Jenkins announced that MUW has received word it will receive the CHAMPS grant for a total of \$1.53 million over a three-year period.

He told the group that Dr. Roy Ruby, retired from MSU, will serve as interim vice president for student services at MUW on a part-time basis.

A great deal of work is being done to get the E College up and running. Dr. Bill Mayfield will be assisting with the E College in the absence of Dr. Charles Harris who has resigned his position as director.

Dr. Bill Mayfield reported that an articulation agreement has been signed with the National Restaurant Association for the culinary arts program. This agreement makes MUW the culinary program of the state.

Student Services Update –

Dr. Bucky Wesley reminded the group about the First Alert Program and how to find the form on the website for filing a report. There are three options for filing a report. The first two are anonymous – reporting a student behavioral concern and reporting a faculty or staff member behavioral concern. The third option is to report students who are having problems in the classroom, and those reports go the Academic Early Alert Program.

Finance & Administration Update -

Nora Miller said the university is continuing to have discussions with MSU on how to move forward with shared services. Right now the big issue is how to move forward with the Banner-dependent services. It may seem simple to people who are not involved with these processes to just “combine” functions, but it is going to take awhile to figure out how to change processes and how to keep data compartmentalized between MSU and MUW. The next follow-up teleconference is scheduled for next Tuesday afternoon.

Concerning the budget, for the first time in 19 months, state tax collections exceeded the projections by a scant 0.24%. One newspaper column compared the current budget situation to a man having lost \$100, but finding a penny in the pocket of an old suit. The March tax collections would be the found penny. Sales tax collections were still short by about 6%. The increase was mainly in corporate income taxes. MUW’s appropriations are approximately 9.5% short, and if that holds true throughout June, MUW will be short about \$1.5 million. IHL is projecting that MUW’s appropriation next year will be about 13% below the initial FY 2010 appropriations or another 3.5% down from right now. The legislature has recessed until April 20th with the idea that by then the state will know more about federal funds available for Medicaid. About 20 other states have passed budgets contingent upon the availability of these funds, but the Mississippi Legislature is hesitant to do this.

A bond bill including \$5 million for MUW is waiting on the Governor’s signature. This will allow MUW to continue fire suppression, address some ADA and other life safety/code issues, and it will fund energy projects to assist with utility cost savings. This bond bill does not include the renovation of the library, but the university plans to resubmit this for next year.

There will be no bid date on Poindexter this month. It should be later this spring or summer.

Follett Textbook Rental Program –

Follett, MUW’s campus bookstore, is planning to launch a textbook rental program for the 2010 academic year, giving students the benefit of saving upwards of 50 percent on textbooks. About 25 percent of the textbooks will be available for rent.

Institutional Advancement Update -

In the absence of Dr. Gary Bouse, Andrea Holcombe reported that the MUW Foundation will again receive funding for the Welty Gala from the Hearin Foundation.

The next Foundation Board meeting is tentatively set for June 3.

Police Department/Human Resources Update -

In the absence of Perry Sansing, Melanie Freeman reported that Employee Performance Appraisals were due to President’s Cabinet members this week.

Faculty Senate Update -

Cathy Young noted that Faculty Senate elections for the new year will take place soon.

Staff Council Update -

No report.

SGA Update –

Kristen Barnes noted that the transition to the new SGA president, which is Brandon Newsome, will happen soon.

SGA recently held a program with Dr. Limbert, Dr. Wesley and Dr. Eric Daffron discussing their reasons for departing from the university at the end of this semester.

SGA has signed a resolution regarding textbooks asking professors to send in textbook recommendations as early as possible in an effect to save money for students.

Leaders Can Jump, a basketball game between students and faculty/staff, will take place later this semester.

Other -

Cassie Derden reported that spring scholars registration is scheduled for Monday, and transfer student registration is later in the month. Dr. Wesley added that numbers look good for the fall semester with applications and housing being up.

Policies –

The Administrative Council voted to accept PS 3520 (Financial Aid Committee) into the review process.