

2/11/11 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Dr. Sheila Adams, Dewey Blansett, Allegra Brigham, Kate Brown, Lesia Bryant (MSU), Dr. Gloria Bunnell, James Denney, Cassie Derden, Melanie Freeman, Gail Gunter, Dave Haffly, Dr. Marty Hatton, Dr. Hal Jenkins, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, Larry Jones, Mary Jo Kirkpatrick, Dr. Bill Mayfield, Dan Miller, Nora Miller, Anika Perkins, Tammy Prather, Dr. Tom Richardson, Mary Margaret Roberts, Perry Sansing, Lindsey Shellnut, Susan Sobley, Andrea Stevens, and Dr. Quiteya Walker.

Absent: Angie Atkins, Lucy Betcher, Dr. Gary Bouse, Roger Busby, Phillip Cockrell, Bryant Cook, Johnnie Sue Cooper, Jessica Harpole, Kennedy Meaders, Brandon Newsome, Sirena Parker, Lana Robinson, Dr. Roy Ruby, Susan Sobley, Dr. Tom Velek, and Leander Williams.

Ms. Allegra Brigham called the meeting to order.

Minutes -

Following a motion by Mary Margaret Roberts and a second by Dr. Bill Mayfield, the minutes from the January 2010 meeting were approved.

President's Report –

Ms. Brigham said this legislative session is supposed to be one of the toughest. Fortunately, there have been some good signs in the economy. She hopes the cuts won't be as bad as originally predicted, but MUW is still facing a really tough year.

She still has received no official letter from IHL concerning the presidential search. It appears from the newspaper article printed on Thanksgiving Day that the search will be put off until after the legislative session.

The Vice President for Student Services search is going well. The committee has narrowed down the field.

Parker Search Firm has recommended that the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs search not take place until a permanent president is hired, and Dr. Hank Bounds concurs. She will begin looking for another interim to replace Dr. Hal Jenkins.

Mississippi State University is asking to open a nursing program at its Meridian campus. This will be on the next IHL agenda. She plans to speak with Dr. Bounds and IHL Board members about MUW's position with this decision.

Academic Affairs Update -

Dr. Hal Jenkins reported that the ABA accreditation visit to MUW's Paralegal Program went well. The visiting team indicated it would recommend reaccreditation.

Also, an accreditation team will be on campus for MUW's Speech-Language Pathology Program later this month.

He said there have been no new grants awarded since the last meeting, but there are several pending.

Finance & Administration Update -

Nora Miller announced that there will be a public meeting to review MUW's final disaster plan on February 15 at 3:30 in Hogarth Student Center.

Progress continues on the Poindexter Hall renovation, the workers doing the street and drainage project continue to find unknown underground utilities, and bids should go out soon for the fire suppression project.

The university has been working on an internal controls plan that is due to IHL. Susan Sobley and others have worked hard on this project.

The appropriation bills have not been entered yet, so it will be important to watch for these.

Student Services Update –

In the absence of Dr. Roy Ruby, Cassie Derden said applications for this fall are running about the same as this time last year.

The recent Hearin Leadership Conference was a success with 87 students participating.

Both Room Draw and the Dining Etiquette Event are coming up soon.

Ms. Brigham noted that the university needs to work extra hard to increase enrollment for this coming fall so that the university will see another increase. It will take everyone working together.

Institutional Advancement Update -

In the absence of Dr. Gary Bouse, Andrea Stevens reported that Public Affairs and the webmaster Bryant Cook worked together to get a social media directory page up on the MUW website.

The Telefund ambassadors are off to a great start, and Brandi Williams is working with the Class of 1961, the 50th reunion class, on their scholarship. Their goal is to raise \$61,000 by Homecoming.

Work continues on the Back to the Future campaign. The goal is to raise \$2 million for non-designated scholarships for FY 12. She hopes faculty and staff will participate in the faculty/staff campaign.

Police Department/Human Resources Update -

Perry Sansing said the state appropriation and bond bills are the important things to be watching for in this legislative session.

Other important bills are the tuition reciprocity bill that could greatly benefit MUW, the travel reimbursement bill for candidates traveling for position interviews, and a bill for donation of property behind the location of the old Magnolia Dorm by MUW to the city of Columbus.

The Vice President for Student Services Search Committee is making reference calls on four individuals. At the next meeting, the group will decide which candidates to bring to campus for campus interviews.

Ms. Brigham added that MUW submitted a letter of support from the Columbus-Lowndes Development Link and from three Alabama schools to support the bill about tuition reciprocity. The university also submitted a report from MUW's Office of Admissions detailing how this bill could be beneficial to the university.

Faculty Senate Update -

No report.

Staff Council Update -

No report.

SGA Update -

No report.

Other -

Ms. Brigham said she attended the HEADWAE Lunch recently in which MUW professor Dr. George Pinchuck and MUW student Brandon Newsome were recognized. Also, IHL's Black History Month recognition will take place at this month's meeting, and professor Dr. James Ward is MUW's nominee for this honor.

Ms. Brigham also said that the weather has created problems with their alumni meeting schedule.

Policies -

Following a motion by Dr. Bill Mayfield and a second by Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, the Administrative Council voted to accept PS 1201 (Distance Learning) into the review process.

Following a motion by Melanie Freeman and a second by Dr. Bill Mayfield, the Administrative Council voted to approve New Policy (Whistleblower) with two recommended changes.

Following a motion by Perry Sansing and a second by Dr. Sue Jolly Smith, the Administrative Council voted to approve PS 3534 (Academic Standards Board) with four recommended changes.