

## **12/2/11 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes**

**In attendance:** Dr. Brian Anderson, Angie Atkins, Allegra Brigham, Dr. Jim Borsig, Kate Brown, Ken Widner for Lesia Bryant, Dr. Gloria Bunnell, Dr. E.E. Caston, Dr. Phillip Cockrell, James Denney, Cassie Derden, Gail Gunter, Dave Haffly, Jessica Harpole, Larry Jones, Kennedy Meaders, Dr. Jennifer Miles, Dan Miller, Nora Miller, Anika Perkins, Tammy Prather, Dr. Tom Richardson, Mary Margaret Roberts, Lana Robinson, Susan Sobley, Andrea Stevens, Kimberly Taylor-Gathings, Dr. Tom Velek, and Leander Williams.

**Absent:** Dr. Sheila Adams, Menuka Ban, Lucy Betcher, Dewey Blansett, Dr. Marty Brock, Roger Busby, Bryant Cook, Melanie Freeman, Dr. Marty Hatton, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, Sirena Parker, Perry Sansing, Lindsey Shelnut, and Dr. William Stewart.

Allegra Brigham called the meeting to order. She welcomed Dr. Jim Borsig, the newly named president, to the meeting.

### **Minutes** -

Following a motion by Mary Margaret Roberts and a second by Gail Gunter, the minutes from the November 2011 meeting were approved.

### **University Updates** -

Ms. Brigham reminded the group about the December Graduates' Recognition Ceremony set for tonight at 6 p.m. Also taking place today is the Hall of Master Teachers luncheon.

She thanked all those involved in Dr. Borsig's visit to campus as the preferred candidate. She feels the university did a good job showing our excitement. She thanked those who were on the Campus Advisory Committee and thanked Angela Jones for coordinating the visit.

She called on Jessica Harpole to talk about MUW's application for the Community Service Honor Roll. Ms. Harpole said the deadline to turn in service numbers for the 2010-2011 academic year is December 9. Any volunteer work done outside the university counts as community service. At this point, we have recorded 211,000 hours, which is 54% more hours than last year.

Ms. Brigham said we should be proud of what we do here in terms of service.

She asked members to look for a notice concerning the last week of work before the winter break.

Finally, Ms. Brigham thanked the members for the overwhelming support she has received during her time as interim president at MUW.

### **Faculty Senate Update** -

Dr. Gloria Bunnell said the Faculty Senate report concerning December graduation is still out for faculty review.

Faculty Senate also is working with Academic Council regarding faculty compensation.

**Staff Council Update** -

Jessica Harpole reported that the Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Meeting is set for December 13. At that meeting, the staff again will be collecting toys for the Salvation Army.

**SGA Update** –

Leander Williams said SGA has had a successful first semester and appreciates the support of faculty and staff. SGA has many great things planned for the spring semester.

**Focus Topic – Dr. Jim Borsig** –

Dr. Borsig said he has been made to feel so welcome in this community and especially on this campus. He is counting on all members of Administrative Council to fill him in on things in their areas so conversations can continue. He requested that people ask questions and speak up when they have suggestions. Please keep him informed and updated.

As he mentioned his public sessions on Wednesday, he stressed that this university will not be merged or closed. This is a fear in the background that is larger than the reality.

The university needs to focus on cutting costs and increasing enrollment and retention. Enrollment and retention are revenues we can control. There will not be more money in the state's economy in the near future, so the university will need to look for ways to increase revenue. We also will need to increase private giving.

In recruiting students, we need to remember we are here to serve Mississippi and that we may not serve students as college-ready as we would like. We need to continue to recruit top students. There needs to be a broad mix.

There will be less high school graduates to recruit in the future because there will be less of them. Today's students entering college include one-third high school graduates, one-third community college transfers, and one-third everyone else.

Recruitment of community college students is as important as recruiting high school students. Mississippi State University and Ole Miss recruit half the state's community college transfer students. Dr. Tom Velek spoke about how aggressive MSU is in regards to recruiting students from East Mississippi Community College.

In regards to retention, Dr. Borsig said we need to get down to the data and figure out how to improve. We also need to look at if we are catching those at risk early enough. Graduation rates also are important. Having students leave our university with college debts and no degrees should be viewed as a significant failure for us.

In the spring, he plans to make many visits around campus. He also plans to make visits around the state. There are many new people on the state level. There will be a new governor who will make new College Board appointments. There also has been a shift to Republican control in the House, so there will be all new committee chairs. It will be important to build relationships.

He looks forward to making many visits with alumni groups. It is important to focus on engaging alumni in the first 10 after graduation.

He plans to start a year-long discussion on MUW's new strategic vision at the end of the spring semester and hopes to be ready to unveil the plan at Homecoming 2013.

James Denney asked how Dr. Borsig plans to encourage Columbus "to take ownership" of MUW. Dr. Borsig believes that will happen through the visioning conversation process. He feels there are many supporters ready to be invited back to be a part of this university.

Mary Margaret Roberts noted that she heard Dr. Borsig talk about the one-third high school graduates/one-third community college transfers/one-third everyone else point at another meeting and that information has been helpful to share with alumni who have the misconception that students entering college today are traditional freshmen.

### **Recognition of Allegra Brigham** –

Dr. Caston recognized Ms. Brigham by saying he appreciates the great job she has done as interim president and the energy she has brought to the university.

Dr. Borsig added that he is very thankful for what Ms. Brigham has done as interim president because it has prepared the way for him.

### **Policies** –

Following a motion by Dan Miller and a second by Dr. Tom Richardson, the Administrative Council voted to approve PS 1307 (Part-time Faculty and Faculty Overloads) with three changes.

Following a motion by James Denney and a second by Anika Perkins, the Administrative Council voted to approve PS 1309 (Course Syllabi) with three changes.

Following a motion by Mary Margaret Roberts and a second by Dr. Gloria Bunnell, the Administrative Council voted to approve PS 3102 (Smoking – Use of Tobacco) with four changes with the intent to look at possibly making MUW a smoke-free campus in the future.

Following a motion by Dave Haffly and a second by James Denney, the Administrative Council voted to cancel PS 6901 (Printing Services).

Following a motion by Nora Miller and a second by Dave Haffly, the Administrative Council voted to approve New Policy (Sustainability Committee) with four changes.

Following a motion by Mary Margaret Roberts and second by James Denney, the Administrative Council voted to approve New Policy (Sustainability Policy) with one change.