

4/13/12 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Dr. Brian Anderson, Angie Atkins, Dr. Jim Borsig, Allegra Brigham, Kate Brown, Ms. Ramsey for Lesia Bryant, Dr. Gloria Bunnell, Melanie Freeman, Gail Gunter, Dr. Marty Hatton, Larry Jones, Dr. Jennifer Miles, Dan Miller, Nora Miller, Tammy Prather, Dr. Tom Richardson, Mary Margaret Roberts, Lana Robinson, Perry Sansing, Mary Slater, Susan Sobley, Dr. Bill Stewart, and Kimberly Taylor-Gathings

Absent: Dr. Sheila Adams, Menuka Ban, Lucy Betcher, Dewey Blansett, Dr. Marty Brock, Dr. E.E. Caston, Dr. Phillip Cockrell, James Denney, Cassie Derden, Dave Haffly, Jessica Harpole, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith, Sirena Parker, Anika Perkins, Lindsey Shelnut, Andrea Stevens, Dr. Tom Velek, and Leander Williams.

Dr. Jim Borsig called the meeting to order.

Minutes -

Following a motion by Mary Margaret Roberts and a second by Gail Gunter, the minutes from the March 2012 meeting were approved.

University Update –

Dr. Borsig said both the House and Senate appropriation bills are for less money than we are currently receiving. He feels like it will end up being a 3% cut, but we have planned for a 5% cut. The legislative leadership understands that they are appropriating less money to IHL and that tuition will have to be raised.

The House has reported a bond bill for \$100 million with \$6 million going to IHL. The Senate also is looking at a bond bill. Both Representative Jeff Smith and Senator Terry Brown are trying to push it along. The IHL presidents have requested a multi-year plan for better long-range planning.

As for the out-of-state tuition waiver bill, Dr. Borsig said he would know more after next week's IHL Board meeting.

IHL took up the issue of room and board rates at the last meeting and should adopt a new rate plan next week. The Board will begin looking at tuition increase requests this month and may vote on it in May. The universities were asked to make a 3-year tuition proposal. MUW submitted a 5%-5%-5% as a placeholder and then went back and finalized the request for 9% for next year and 6% each for the second and third years. Even with a 9% increase, MUW would still have the lowest tuition in the system. Part of increase would be set aside as a safety net for scholarships for the neediest students.

Dr. Borsig concluded by saying that MUW has both challenges and opportunities in the future and that funding will make a difference.

Faculty Senate Update -

Dr. Gloria Bunnell said the new course evaluations are available as of yesterday. Faculty Senate worked hard on this with the Chairs Council.

The April Faculty Senate meeting will be the last one of the semester and Dr. Bunnell's last one as President. Elections will be held at the meeting.

Staff Council Update -

No report.

SGA Update –

No report.

Other –

Allegra Brigham encouraged everyone to attend Homecoming weekend events. She highlighted the athletics reunion and book signing, the Frank Sinatra Tribute, and the senior art exhibit.

Mary Margaret Roberts also talked about Homecoming, mentioning an alumna's Airstream display, Dr. Sue Jolly-Smith receiving an Alumni Achievement Award, Dr. Borsig's Twitter session, the reception for Dr. Harry Sherman who is the longest serving current employee, and the barbeque celebrating 30 years of men at MUW.

Dr. Jennifer Miles gave an update about the website redesign. She said the website resource team would meet later today and have a conference call with EMG personnel. The next step is to make a recommendation on site construction and to get an application on the site for the graduate and undergraduate calendars. Dr. Marty Brock is chairing the search for a new webmaster.

Policies –

Following a motion by Melanie Freeman and a second by Perry Sansing, the Administrative Council voted to approve PS 3525 (Graduate Council) with the recommended changes.

Following a motion by Dr. Brian Anderson and a second by Dr. Gloria Bunnell, the Administrative Council voted to approve PS 1304 (Tenure of Faculty) with the recommended changes and two additional changes suggested by the Director's Council.