

## **9/1/23 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Dr. Brian Anderson, Russell Brandon, Dr. Marty Brock, Dr. David Brooking, Aaron Brooks, Melissa Buxton, Karen Clay, Jennifer Claybrook, Wesley Garrett, Sam Garrie, Rodney Godfrey, Jessica Harpole, Erinn Holloway, Dr. Holleen Krogh, Dr. Brandy Larmon, Carla Lowery, Penny Mansell, Iika McCarter, Christi Dillon for Tequila McCoy, Nora Miller, Dr. Clear Moore, Andrew Moneymaker, Nicole Patrick, Anika Perkins, Amanda Clay Powers, Laura Quinn, Ginger Smith, Susan Soblely, Dr. Scott Tollison, Randy Vibrock, Dr. Deb Wells, Dr. Kim Whitehead and Elise Wilson

President Nora Miller called the meeting to order.

### **Minutes -**

Following a motion from Amanda Clay Powers and a second by Carla Lowery, the June 2023 meeting minutes were approved.

### **University Update –**

President Miller welcomed new Administrative Council members Elise Wilson and Wesley Garrett and thanked Christi Dillon for representing Staff Council in place of Tequila McCoy.

She mentioned the next quarterly Town & Tower meeting will be held in the new Culinary Building on September 7 and tours will be available following the meeting. To make sure W faculty and staff have the chance to see the new building first, tours were available following today's meeting through noon. An official ribbon-cutting with the Chamber of Commerce is set for September 25, and a grand opening celebration will be planned for next semester.

The university's SACS Self Study will be submitted next week. She thanked Carla Lowery and everyone who participated in the process. After submission, an off-site review team will thoroughly review the document and identify anything the on-site team should address when they come in March. The on-site team will meet with people across campus to assess whether we are doing everything we say we are doing, follow up on the off-site review, and hopefully focus most of their attention on the QEP proposal.

The university's status as an NCAA Division 3 member was official today. Notification was received earlier this summer after completing an exploratory year and four years of provisional membership. In each of those years, Athletics filed self-study reports with the last one being over 2,000 pages. President Miller congratulated Jennifer Claybrook and her team for their efforts. The first home games against a St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) team will be volleyball games on September 23 against Westminster and Spaulding. SLIAC Commissioner Dick Kaiser will be here to celebrate with the university.

President Miller reported Chernoff Newman representatives were on campus earlier in the week to meet with the President's Cabinet, the Naming Taskforce, and the University

Relations staff. Before asking Naming Taskforce co-chairs Amanda Clay Powers and Dr. Tom Richardson to give a report from the meeting, President Miller mentioned one of the recommendations Chernoff Newman made was that the university memorialize its history of being the first state supported college for women in the country. She said she and others had already talked about creating a Women's College that would draw upon many of the existing courses within each of the colleges. Dr. Scott Tollison will head up the work on the creation of this college, working with a subset of the taskforce. Also, the Women's Mission Advancement Committee will meet next week to discuss all of the current programming that is taking place and future plans.

#### **Naming Taskforce Update** –

Ms. Powers said this week's meeting with Chernoff Newman was about branding and not about names. They would like to honor the university's history and focus on what they see as the highlights of the university which center around empowering, inclusive, progressive, supportive and tradition-rich. Other things Chernoff Newman noted in the meeting were the need for the university to brag more on itself and to become known as a first-choice university. The Chernoff Newman representatives will return to campus in two weeks to present 10 possible names for the university. Dr. Richardson added Chernoff Newman plans to develop possible names from the branding process and not just pick a name and make it fit. They do not plan to recommend directional names, but Mississippi being in the name is still on the table because it's important to include this indicator that the university is public. Some of the recommended names may have a W, but the focus will be shifted away from The W since that will always be associated with women. Chernoff Newman understands the university currently has to explain who it is so it's important to find a name that doesn't have to be explained.

#### **Multi-Agency Drill** –

Ms. Lowery announced the university will participate in the annual multi-agency drill on September 7. The drill will be held in Cromwell. The university will test the W Alert System and the Call Center, and the CAT Team will work through certain scenarios. Chief Randy Vibrock added that the sirens will be activated too.

#### **Faculty Senate Update** –

Dr. Holly Krogh reported some funds from Fund A (faculty travel) and Fund B (improvements in classroom teaching) have already been awarded. About \$6,250 remains of the \$8,000 budget in Fund A, and \$2,000 remains in the \$3,000 budget for Fund B. Faculty Senate will have its first meeting of the semester on September 8.

#### **Staff Council Update** –

In the absence of Tequila McCoy, Christie Dillon thanked the Administrative Council membership for contributing to the school supply drive in July. She also noted September 15 is the deadline for nominations for the Owl Star Award.

#### **SGA Update** –

Sam Garrie said SGA Senate elections are today, and there will be a retreat later in the month.

**Other Updates** –

Anika Perkins asked the Administrative Council members to let her know if they plan to attend the Town & Tower meeting on September 7.

Ms. Powers said the first book talk for the Community Read book “How the Word is Passed” was well attended. The next session is set for September 27, and chapters 2-3 will be discussed.

Chief Vibrock reminded the Administrative Council members that the 2022-23 parking decals expire today.

Nicole Patrick announced refunds will be dispersed September 8, and the FAFSA will open in December, which is later than usual.

Following the meeting, Administrative Council members took a tour of the new culinary arts building, and tours were available for all faculty and staff from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Dr. Marty Brock mentioned the meeting spaces in the building are not in EMS yet, but they will be soon.

**Policies** –

Following a motion by Dr. Brock and a second by Dr. David Brooking, the Administrative Council voted to recommend President Miller approve one change to PS 3546 (Enrollment Management Council), which is to change the chair from the Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs to the Director of Enrollment Management, rather than the policy go through the normal 60-day review process.

With a motion by Andrew Moneymaker and a second by Ms. Powers, the Administrative Council meeting adjourned.