

4/10/2026 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

Participated: President Nora Miller, Brian Anderson, Brandie Branch, Marty Brock David Brooking, Trish Caston, Jill Drouillard, Josh Dohmen, Kendall Dunkelberg, Asia Duren, Buddy Foster, Rodney Godfrey, Marty Hatton, Erinn Holloway, Jordan Taylor, Jessi Jobe, Brandy Larmon, Chandler Lester, Carla Lowery, Shannon Lucius, Penny Mansell, Matthew Miles, Clear Moore, Jennifer Moore, Andrew Moneymaker, Chad Murphy, Nicole Patrick, Anika Perkins, Hillary Richardson, Laura Quinn, Susan Sobley, Scott Tollison, Kim Whitehead, Zander Hall

Dr. Tollison called the meeting to order.

Minutes -

Following a motion from Dr. Marty Hatton and a second by Trish Caston the March 2026 meeting minutes were approved.

University Update –

Dr. Tollison updated the Council on the Legislative session closed with anticipated flat appropriation plus PERS and insurance coverage; final budget pending IHL approval in May.

Dr. Tollison reported

- President Miller informed the Council of Neshoba General Hospital BSN program: \$4 million secured (requested \$4.5M) to complete facility buildout in Philadelphia; classes start fall 2027 with 40-student cohort, expanding to 100+ students by year two. The plans are near bid-ready stage; construction schedule to be finalized
- IHL listening sessions: April 14 at 11 AM and 2 PM in Cochran Ballroom with live streaming option.
- The commissioner and at least one trustee attending both sessions; 4+ board members expected on campus.
- Questions not accepted during sessions but can be submitted to Ashley Williams for inclusion in post-session notes to IHL.
- President Miller retirement reception: April 30, 4-6 PM at Culinary Arts Institute

Update –

Dr. Chad Murphy reported Faculty Senate Faculty Senate will meet this afternoon to elect a new executive committee.

Fund A and Fund B funds have been promised out, the funds are exhausted.

Staff Council Update-

Jordan Taylor the newly elected President gave the following updates for Staff Council:

- April 8th was Staff Council's last meeting.

- A planning meeting will take place in the coming weeks for our end-of-year celebration.
- A new staff council president has been selected; other positions have been selected as well for the council.
- Planning is underway for new outreach ideas that were proposed to increase membership within; as well as improve how we welcome new staff to our campus existence.

SGA Update –

Zander Hall Project Hoot, was held in March on the 28th. There was a good turnout.

Student Government

- SGA stoles: Ordered with 2–3-week delivery timeline
- IHL board presentation: SGA leaders presenting annual accomplishments April 16 in Jackson, MS.
- Student attendance confirmed for presidential listening sessions
- SGA will host a NEST night in April.

Zander informed the council that SGA will partner with the Multicultural Organization for International Night on April 22nd at 5pm, in Cochran Ballroom.

SGA last Senate meeting is the 21st of April.

Other Updates-

Dr. Clear Moore reminded the council of hosting the first Spring 2026 on-campus orientation, on April 17, 2026.

Penny Mansell informed the council of the following:

- Columbus Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours May 14, 2026, 5-7 p.m. in the EDHS Building.
- Education Awards Day: April 14 at Nissan for top GPA students (grades 4+) from Columbus/Lowndes County schools; recruitment opportunity.
- Cheer conference: April 18 in Pope, fifth annual event for early educators.

Anika Perkins announced that there is going to be a retirement reception for President Miller on April 30, 2026, from 4 until 6 in the Culinary Arts Institute. Additional information will be sent to campus.

April 16 is the next ADA Compliance Workshop. The ADA website compliance deadline is April the 24th. If you have any concerns or questions, make sure to reach out to University Relations for assistance. Focus on getting rid of any type of PDFs, and making sure that you've got alt text, caption with your videos.

Dr. Matthew Miles reported to the Council that Student Affairs is having the Ody's Leadership Gala on April 15th. The awards show will start at 6.

Hillary Richardson gave an update on the Office of Undergraduate Research's Undergraduate Research Conference is going to be Friday of next week.

Richard Grant, author of *The Deepest South of All*, is going to join the library on the 22nd for a book talk.

Clear Moore informed the Council on April 18th of the Bluebonnet Trailblazer 5K Challenge at Plymouth Bluff.

Special thanks to Andrew in housing, who's organized the brunch battle for the post-race food. Glenn Halbert for assisting and having Visit Columbus as a sponsor.

The funds raised from the race will go to the Lounge First program for all of the First-gen Programming. Any separate funds raised from brunch battle plate sell will go to the Owl Food Pantry.

President Miller informed the Council of the following events on campus:

- Preview Weekend- March 20-21
- Music by Women Festival-March 5-7, 2026

Policy

No Policy Review

Dr. Tollison entertained a motion to adjourn.

It was so moved by Dr. Josh Dohmen and seconded by Melissa Smith to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned.