

Deans' Council

Minutes: Tuesday, April 12, 2011

1:00 – 2:30 pm

President's Conference Room

Montana Hall

Martha Potvin

Susan Agre-Kippenhan

Larry Baker

Carl Fox

Robert Hietala

Jeff Jacobsen

Marvin Lansverk

Paula Lutz

Robert Marley

Tom McCoy

Helen Melland

Tamara Miller

Dan Moshavi

Allen Yarnell

I. Call to order

Provost Potvin called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm

II. Approval of Minutes of March 8, 2011, Meeting

Minutes unanimously approved as written.

III. Information/Announcements

Allen Yarnell: Projections for fall 2011 enrollment are unstable at this time.

Tamara Miller: The Creative Arts Library is being integrated into the Renne Library. The first phase of work to create a Library Commons area is underway.

Progress is being made in the negotiation of the collective bargaining agreement. Leslie Taylor will provide an update soon.

IV. Topics for Discussion:

A. Commencement – President Cruzado

President Cruzado reviewed plans for commencement. She is receiving positive feedback on the proposed changes from a variety of constituencies. Joel Jahnke is providing professional expertise on the staging of the event. Michael Sexson will continue to serve as reader. The goal is to create a more student-centered event.

B. Religious Studies Major – David Cherry

The Provost asked for questions regarding this new proposed major. None heard, a motion was made and seconded to recommend approval. The vote was unanimous in favor of recommending submission to the Board of Regents.

C. Montana Dietetic Internship Program – Larry Baker

This program is being reviewed at multiple levels simultaneously to expedite submission to the Board of Regents. If significant opposition occurs at any level, the item will be pulled from the agenda. Faculty Senate Chair Marvin Lansverk expressed concern regarding the short timeframe for approval. Dean Baker indicated that 14 students are in line for these internships. A motion was made and seconded to recommend approval. The vote was unanimous in favor with one abstention.

D. Faculty Assignments and Changing Roles

Provost Potvin reminded the Deans that every faculty member should have an accurate written statement of expectations.

E. IDC Accumulation in Accounts

This item was deferred to the May meeting when Vice President McCoy will be in attendance.

F. Fiscal Transition

Provost Potvin stated that she does not plan to fill the position of Budget and Fiscal Director (vice Leist). The Provost and the Vice President for Administration and Finance have agreed to utilize staff in the Budget Office to assist with Academic Affairs budget issues. Terry Leist asked that the Deans continue to contact him directly on fiscal issues so he can refer them to the appropriate member of his staff.

G. Other

Mission Statement: Provost Potvin distributed a draft mission statement and core themes developed by Planning Council. These statements will be used in MSU's accreditation report and for establishing priorities for the comprehensive campaign. A draft of the mission statement will be posted to the MSU website and comments will be solicited. The Provost is actively seeking faculty input in this process. The President has established a deadline of December 2011 for development of a strategic plan. Discussion followed regarding suggested changes to the draft statements.

Space for Anatomy and Physiology (A&P): Provost Potvin advised the Deans of the need for additional space for A&P classes in order to accommodate a significant increase in students. Please advise the Provost of any space possibilities in your units.

Financial Commitments: The Provost will be working on a strategic plan for Academic Affairs. How to prioritize and fund new programs is a significant issue. The Provost asked that the Deans bring forward new and unfunded programs for discussion at the next Deans' Council (May 10).

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 10, 2011, 1:00 – 2:30 pm (President's Conference Room)