

# Deans' Council

## Minutes: Tuesday, December 14, 2010

1:00 – 2:30 pm

President's Conference Room

Montana Hall

Joseph Fedock

Susan Agre-Kippenhan

Larry Baker

Jeff Jacobsen

Marvin Lansverk

Paula Lutz

Robert Marley

Tom McCoy

Helen Melland

Tamara Miller

Dan Moshavi

Allen Yarnell

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### I. Call to order

The Provost called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

### II. Approval of Minutes of November 23, 2010, Meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of approval.

### III. Information/Announcements

### IV. Topics for Discussion:

#### A. Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) – Bob Oakberg

As part of the NCAA certification process, MSU must provide a position description for the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). The FAR reports to the President and serves at the discretion of the President (as stated in the NCAA manual). Deans' Council and Faculty Senate have previously reviewed documents and made recommendations to the President. Bob Oakberg was asked by the President to make changes in the position description and the guidelines for selection.

Key changes in the guidelines for selection document submitted by Faculty Senate:

- Emeritus faculty will not be eligible to serve
- The FAR will not be given a "term" for appointment, but rather, will serve at the discretion of the President
- The President will select the FAR in consultation with Faculty Senate, rather than seek nominations from Faculty Senate

Key changes in the position description document submitted by Faculty Senate:

- Language regarding term of appointment (first paragraph, last sentence) will be removed
- All signature lines will be removed

Faculty Senate representatives explained their work in examining best practices nationally. These best practices were incorporated into the Faculty Senate version of the proposed position description and guidelines for selection. Discussion followed regarding the concept of a “faculty” athletic representative.

The Faculty Senate chair expressed concern regarding the approval process for items that originate with Faculty Senate. In his view, the document under consideration should have been returned to the originating council (Faculty Senate) for consideration of suggested changes and amendments. Councils should not have authority or responsibility for amending other council’s documents.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the revised position description presented by Bob Oakberg with the elimination of the term of appointment language and the signature lines (as noted above).

Vote: 9 in favor; one opposed. Motion passed.

## **B. SFBS Proposal for Institutional Support – Bill Dyer**

The Sustainable Foods and Bioenergy Systems (SFBS) Program is entering its third year. The faculty leadership for this program (Bill Dyer, Alison Harmon and Bruce Maxwell) outlined the key factors regarding this interdisciplinary BS degree program. The faculty are asking for institutional financial support:

- Salary for program coordinator
- Salary for Towne’s Harvest Garden manager (1.5 FTE)
- Infrastructure support for Towne’s Harvest Garden

The SFBS program has been supported by grant, and associated departments and colleges. Given the growth in enrollment, institutional support has become critical for the continuation of the SFBS program.

Discussion followed regarding commitment of increased tuition revenues to this program. The point was made that financial support of increased student enrollment should have the highest priority for additional revenue. There was general consensus that SFBS was a fine program, but there are other new, exciting and existing interdisciplinary programs equally deserving of institutional support. At this time, there is not a tangible funding model to support new, viable programs. If funds are identified in support of new programs, Deans’ Council could be charged with developing an RFP process for review and recommendation for funding to the President.

A motion was made to defer a decision on funding of the SFBS proposal pending discussion of a process for identifying programs, criteria for consideration, process and a source of funds in

support of new programs. There was general consensus for recommending this approach to the President.

### **C. International Program Agreements – Norm Peterson**

The Office of International Programs administers approximately 60 international agreements for student exchanges between MSU and other non-U.S. institutions. The President has requested Deans' Council review and make recommendations on two new international agreements:

- Ganjin Ceramic Art School
- Grenoble University I and II

There are no financial obligations related to these two programs as they are 100% student supported through tuition swap with the host institution. Following discussion, it was agreed that the agreements would be modified to allow for comparable signature authorities at both institutions (i.e. President/President or Dean/Dean).

A motion was made and seconded to approve the two agreements with signature modifications as noted above.

Motion passed unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2011, 1:00 – 2:30 pm (President's Conference Room)**