

6/7/24 Administrative Council Meeting Minutes

Present: Dr. Brian Anderson, Russell Brandon, Dr. Marty Brock, Dr. David Brooking, Aaron Brooks, Rodney Godfrey, Jody Kennedy, Carla Lowery, Tequila McCoy, Jennifer Moore, Nicole Patrick, Laura Quinn, Susan Sobley, Randy Vibrock, Dr. Deb Wells, Dr. Kim Whitehead and Laila Wren

In the absence of President Nora Miller, Dr. Kim Whitehead called the meeting to order.

Minutes -

Following a motion from Carla Lowery and a second by Dr. David Brooking, the May 2024 meeting minutes were approved.

University Update –

Dr. Brooking read the following university update from President Miller:

Our tuition and board rates were approved at the May IHL Board meeting as submitted. Our budget summaries were submitted last week, and we are waiting on their approval at the IHL meeting later this month.

IHL will also be approving some appointments – one of which is removing the “Interim” from Carla Lowery’s position of Vice President for Operations and Chief Financial Officer. I’m thankful for her broad and deep knowledge of this institution and her leadership in our strategic planning and operations.

We are continuing to work with MSMS to seek funding for the facilities that they use on this campus. We are working with community leaders to develop a plan for showing strong community support for MSMS remaining on our campus. We will be featuring MSMS at the next quarterly Town and Tower meeting on June 27 and will be encouraging participation and promotion of that event.

IHL has four new Board members. Trustee Jerry Griffith joined us for lunch and one of our Spring commencement ceremonies. Trustee Charles Stephenson will be on campus this coming Monday to briefly meet with Cabinet and to tour campus and visit over lunch. We hope to welcome Trustees Don Clark and James Heidelberg to campus in the near future.

We have begun planning for the next legislative session so that we can build relationships with key legislators and work with our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends who can help to tell our story and make those connections.

Last month we took part in the Market Street Festival, hosting a “cooling station” and lounge for our alumni and friends. Kudos to Cathryn Bowman and Lowndes County Alumni President Kristen Pate for pulling out all the stops and setting that up. We had a lot of alumni and friends come by to enjoy the fans, rocking chairs and treats, and Ody was a great hit with children. I’m anxious to see how that dynamic duo (Cathryn and

Kristen) will handle the set-up for tomorrow's Mississippi Picnic on The Mall in DC. We did not have much notice about the Mississippi Picnic in New York that will be next weekend, so we will not be able to wow New York this year. We will have a presence at the Neshoba County Fair in July, along with the other IHLs on that Tuesday.

We've had the NEWLeadership program here this week, along with the first week of Governor's School, and our MFA in Creative Writing students have been here, too. Thanks to all who are helping to make those experiences special for the participants.

I am pleased that Gov. Reeves has given us the option to take an additional day to celebrate Independence Day, so we will be taking off July 5th. If there is a need for a July Administrative Council meeting we will schedule that for the following week.

Faculty Senate Update –

No report.

Staff Council Update –

Tequila McCoy said nominations for the next Owl Star of the quarter are due June 15.

SGA Update –

Dr. Whitehead welcomed new SGA president Laila Wrenn.

Other Updates –

Carla Lowery mentioned with the budget request sent to IHL this month, there will be a modest salary increase.

Policies –

Following a motion by Dr. Brooking and a second by Dr. Brian Anderson, the Administrative Council voted to recommend President Miller approve recommended changes to PS 3540 (General Education Curriculum Council).

Following a motion by Ms. Lowery and a second by Dr. Brooking, the Administrative Council voted to recommend President Miller approve recommended changes to PS 3508 (The Undergraduate Curriculum Council).

Following a motion by Ms. Lowery and a second by Dr. Brooking, the Administrative Council voted to recommend President Miller approve recommended changes to PS 3515 (Academic Council).

Following a motion by Dr. Anderson and a second by Russell Brandon, the Administrative Council voted to recommend President Miller approve recommended changes to New Policy (Women's College Advisory Committee).

Dr. Whitehead concluded the meeting by thanking both Mr. Brandon and Dr. Marty Brock for their service to Administrative Council.