



**Academic Council  
August 25, 2005  
Minutes**

**Present:** Andrews, Jaffe, Joseph, Creelan, Plummer, Callan, Blalock, Baker, Caughman, Westrick, Newton, Devkota, Cook, Robinson, Ginn, Hill, Lee, Green, Miller, Cobb, Kiernan, Brigdon, Barbeau

**I. Call to order:**

Dr. Robinson called the meeting to order at approximately 4:05 PM

**II. Recognition of newly elected AC Members:**

Dr. Robinson recognized the newly elected members to the Academic Council

**III. Approval of Minutes from May 19, 2005**

The minutes were approved as presented. The change of the structure to the structure of the Academic Council Subcommittees was approved by electronic vote May 25, 2005.

**IV. Standing Committee Reports:**

**Faculty Governance: Ms. Pam Cook**

Ms. Cook reported that the proposed change to the FADPT policy had been voted on electronically in July and that she would investigate the proper procedure for having the policy change approved by the general faculty and having the policy placed in the Faculty Manual.

Ms. Cook reported that the Faculty Evaluation of Administrators Chair, Dr. Andria Thomas gave an update to the Executive Committee on August 6, 2005 stating that The Faculty Evaluation of Administrators had been completed but that it was sent out late and the data compiled late due to many technical difficulties. Due to the small number of participants the information was not used in the evaluation process this year. Next year the website for the evaluation will be sent out in February so that it can be completed on time to be used for evaluations in the Spring. Dr. Thomas will be working

between now and February to make faculty aware of the tool, its benefits and how it works.

**Scholarship & Standards: Dr. Barbara Kiernan:**

Dr. Kiernan stated that she was working with Ms. Marilee Creelan and Dr. Rhea Beth Markowitz on getting the Faculty Manual complete by January 2006.

**Dr. Zheng Dong: Strategies & Responsibilities: NO REPORT**

**V. Administrative Reports:**

**Mr. R. Bryan Ginn, Jr., VP for External and Government Relations:**

Mr. Ginn stressed the importance of positive media relations so that MCG is recognized properly by the public. He announced that Ms. Toni Baker has been named Director of Media Relations for MCG. The Office of Media Relations works closely with the university administration, faculty, staff and students to produce news releases for external distribution as well as feature stories for MCG publications that provide in-depth information about research and educational activities on campus.

The Office of Strategic Communications oversees the campus marketing and internal communications efforts including production of the university's major publications: MCG Today, a quarterly magazine; MCG Tomorrow, an annual research report; and the Beeper, a biweekly newspaper for the MCG community.

The office of External and Government Relations was working in collaboration with IT on the new internal communication tool, MyMCG web portal.

Mr. Ginn has been named the Interim Vice President of University Advancement and in this capacity will work to maintain and develop ongoing relationships with MCG supporters. The division coordinates and conducts MCG's fund-raising activities and communicates with external and internal constituencies.

**Ms. Beth Brigdon, Vice President of Information Technology:**

Through recently released software from Novell, ITSS can now support Blackberry devices through the Blackberry Enterprise Server. The BES is a wireless solution for connecting Blackberry users to their GroupWise e-mail, calendar, address book, to-do list and the Internet. This service employs "push" technology to keep users up-to-date. With a Blackberry and the new BES service, members of the MCG community can stay connected anywhere within their wireless provider's digital coverage area.

The MCG wireless project has reached another milestone. In June, the infrastructure was completed and over 200 wireless access points were installed in campus-owned buildings. Wireless access is now available in all campus-owned buildings, except campus housing. Due to the architecture of the campus housing facilities, it is cost-prohibitive to extend the campus network to these buildings at this time.

IT and the Library are working together on a project and hosting a webinar on Digital Learning Objects on September 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 PM in the small auditorium (BC-130), using advanced technology to enhance learning and the educational process.

The project to expand the fiber cable plant on campus to be ready for connection to the Southern Light Rail (SLR) high bandwidth research network has begun.

IT Dell on campus last week to talk about the potential of building a large High Performance Computing Cluster on campus for research support.

The creation of a new Student Help Desk was approved and funded in this year's budget. It will be located in the Library and staffed from 7:30 AM - 7:30 PM.

On behalf of Dr. Mike Miller, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Services, Ms. Brigdon announced that the Banner Student Information System is now Live. This is a new recruiting tool for students entering Fall 2006 and later.

**Mr. Andrew Newton, Vice President for Legal Affairs:**

Mr. Newton introduced the legal staff at MCG: Mr. Greg Bryan, J.D., Associate Legal Advisor and Ms. Lee Little, J.D., Associate Legal Advisor.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Budget:** The itemized budget for 2005-2006 will be sent out to AC members electronically for review so that it can be voted on and approved at the September AC meeting.

**Restructure of AC Subcommittees:** Dr. Dave Hill went over the restructure and explained that it had been voted on and approved by electronic vote in July 2004.

**MCG Forum for the Future:** Dr. Robinson reviewed the draft document with the AC members and asked that they review it and consider how the Forum should be structured. Once the Cabinet approves the Forum it will go before the Executive Committee for vote.

**Distinguished Chair Document:** Dr. Dave Hill explained that the document had been approved by everyone necessary to have it sent to the Academic Council for approval. The document will be sent to the AC electronically for their review.

**New Faculty Reception:** The New Faculty Reception will be held on Tuesday, September 06, 2005 at the Club House on Washington Road from 7:00-9:00 PM.

**MCG Arts Council:** Mr. Bill Andrews, Chair, MCG Arts Council asked that AC support The Healing Gift of Music concert Sept. 16 at 7 p.m., in the Imperial Theatre. Event proceeds will help the MCG Arts Council continue its mission of promoting healing. Tickets for The Healing Gift of Music concert are \$25 for general admission and \$50 for premium seating. Tickets are available at the MCG Bookstore, the MCG Parking Office, The MCG Express Card Office, Volunteer Services on the first floor of the CMC or by contacting the Imperial box office at 706-722-8341.

**MCG Chorus:** Marilee Creelan, Manager of the MCG Chorus: The chorus will be performing on the family stage at the Arts in the Heart of Augusta, Saturday, September 17.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.