

# **Faculty Meeting Agenda**

August 17, 2023 10:00 am

# I. Welcome

• The more things change, the more they stay the same...

# • Enrollment:

In 2013-2014 there was an increase in enrollment. It was at its peak in 2016. While we might have the largest freshman enrollment in Fall 2023, it does not top our overall student totals from 2016. Increased enrollment leads to the benefit of the University as a whole and faculty/staff pay. Currently, undergraduate enrollment in the School of Education is up. However, graduate enrollment is down across the SOE and University.

# • Parking:

Commuter parking is no longer available directly behind Guyton Hall. Please refer students to the dynamic map (not the PDF/printed one) on the Parking website for accurate information.

The entire lot beside Guyton is now a construction zone for the new Data Center. For this reason, the middle bay behind Guyton has now been turned into faculty/staff only. The far-left bay is reserved for South Residential students. Faculty/Staff can park in commuter lots. If you must walk, do not hesitate to ask for a golf cart. There needs to be discussions between departments regarding moving department vehicles behind the Jackson Avenue Center, if possible, to free up more spots in the back lot.

# • Technology- IT Security Policy:

Please read the new IT Policy and sign it. This prevents data from being compromised. Under the new policy, personal devices are not to be used to conduct UM work. In addition, private student information should not be stored in Google Classroom. All information should be moved to Box. If you need to help moving and/or requesting a device, please submit a ticket to technology.

# • Development:

Jacob Ferguson is now back with the School of Education as our new Development Associate

Last year, for the SOE, we brought over 1.3 million dollars in private support. Overall, the University brought in 155 million dollars for academics. The SOE is excited about this, and development is working to accrue this year's reports.

# II. Department and Office Reports; New Faculty Introductions

# • Teacher Education- Dr. Tom Brady

New Hires: Erica Avent, Whitney Drewrey, Ashley Goralczyk, Lauren Hill, Kristy Livingston, and Candies Winfun-Cook

Best of Oxford Professor of the Year (Oxford Magazine): Nicole Roberson

The 35<sup>th</sup> cohort of Mississippi Teacher Corp (MTC) will begin and the 11<sup>th</sup> cohort of the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program (METP).

#### • Leadership and Counselor Education- Dr. Rick Balkin New Hire: Franc Hudspeth (Play Therapy GPC)

Starting at the next faculty meeting (September, October, December) Dr. Balkin will be doing a stats refresher in Guyton Annex 119. Breakfast will be provided. Those who attend will help choose the next topic.

Erika Montgomery will be running the COPE clinic full time. Mandy Perryman is heading the CACREP Accreditation Cycle. Mandy Perryman and Stephanie Lusk are over the Mental Health First Aid grant.

For the past two years, COPE clinic has offered \$375,000 worth of pro-bono services across the state of Mississippi. 52% of our services are through tele-mental health. We are running two tele-mental health grants there and a Mississippi drug prevention program.

#### • Higher Education- Dr. Phillis George

Higher Education is the newest department to be added to the SOE with 7 faculty, 13 adjuncts, and four graduate programs.

Last year, the Higher Ed. Department graduated many doctoral students.

The landscape in education has changed. The Supreme Court issued a ruling outlawing race based affirmative action, which means for faculty in the SOE that we are the only front in making sure children along the continuum who want to pursue advanced degrees have that opportunity. So, I'm going to issue now with charge that we utilize the built-in resources that we have as a scholarly community and work to advance the major tenants of teaching research and service. Anything you do, try to do with that umbrella of programming in mind. We need to work together now more than ever to serve our students along the educational continuum. Higher Ed stands ready with you to complete that mission.

#### • SAFE Office- Dr. Whitney Webb

Please check your rosters and check the students are on the books with you. Attendance verification always helps with that but it's easier if you take care of it on the front end.

In October, Spring advising for undergraduates will begin.

It is not required that students have an appointment for advising. Graduate students need to be directed to the Graduate Studies Office.

# Graduate Studies- Denise Soares

New Graduate Assistants: Ryan and Caroline

246 SOE graduate applications have been processed for Fall 2023.

Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup> is the last day to register for classes.

The Graduate Studies Office received 176 total scholarship applications. Out of those, 41 scholarships were awarded using the scoring from GPCs and faculty who helped this summer.

### • Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion- Dr. Karen V. Davidson Smith

The SOE will promote and celebrate diversity and we commit ourselves for the longterm. Faculty and staff in the SOE must recognize we have to constantly change as we prepare students for the future. We must also recognize that progress is sometimes made in a day and other times it takes months and years. We live in a diverse world and today's climate is ever-changing. We are constantly dealing with issues that deal with DEI on a daily basis in our nation. We as faculty and staff need to be reminded that some differences are visible, however, there are others that are not visually apparent, but still may affect how individuals are treated and how they feel. So, I, like Dr. George, challenge you to make it your goal to understand each other better. Put yourself in someone else's shoes. Conversations about diversity and bias can be emotionally charged, but we have to ensure that everyone regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, and identity has an equal access to opportunity to strive. DEI is everyone's responsibility.

There will be a form for you to fill out during the semester to put your activities and anything that's DEI related that you do in your classes on this form. This form meets the requirements for the University's Pathway to Equity program. The SOE has a five-year equity-in-action plan. Everyone will have access to the form and you can fill it out as you do things so we aren't waiting until the end of the semester to fill it out.

For September, we will be asking faculty to answer several survey questions online. We will then form things and focus groups accordingly and give incentives based on participation. This has to do with the SE Equity Initiatives, spearheaded by Dr. Platt and Billy Crews.

We will be getting underclassmen to join the DEI student council. We have two diversity planning committees in the SOE.

- 1. SOE DEI Student Council
- 2. SOE Department Equity Faculty and Staff committee

#### Recruitment- Forthcoming Search

Our previous recruiter has now moved to North Texas

# • Marketing/Communications- Adrienne Edney

Leslie and Adrienne are working on a manual import scheduled to be published in September.

In regard to the website—we have created and submitted all the undergraduate program pages at this time. Hopefully, the next step is graduate programs, with a plan for 2024 rollout.

If you need any updates for handbooks and program sheets, please put in a ticket so we can make sure all the information is in the same spot and cohesive.

Also for new and returning faculty/staff, you can go between 9-11 on Mondays to take

headshots.

If you have an event you want a story about, give marketing at least 10 day's notice before the event. Preferably a month but no less than ten days. The research stories are high engagement, so we are always looking for those.

Adrienne will be switching universities to work for a small private college in Alabama.

## III. Faculty Announcements

#### • Ms. Melissa Dennis- SOE Library Liaison

 IV. Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates: SOE Faculty Meetings-UM Fall Faculty Meeting-Guyton Fall Festival IV. Upcoming Meetings-UM Fall Faculty Meeting-Guyton Fall Festival September 15, October 20, November 10, December 1 January 26, February 23, March 22, April 26 Friday, August 25, 2:30 pm Ford Center for the Performing Arts (Information Fair at 1:30 pm in Ford Center Lobby) October 13, 5 – 7 pm

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