EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING
March 18, 2026

The Executive Council met on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. at the campus in Oxford, MS.

Dr. Michael Heindl, President
Mr. Jeff Horton, Vice President for Administration and Finance
~~Dr. Andrew Dale, Associate Vice President for Community Outreach~~
Dr. Matthew Domas, Vice President of Instruction
Dr. Tonyalle Rush, Vice-President for Student Services and Enrollment Management

Mr. Dwayne Casey, Associate Vice-President for Workforce Solutions and Career-Technical Education
Mrs. Angel Nickens, Dean of eLearning
Ms. Patti Gordon, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement
Dr. Keith Reed, Dean of DeSoto Center
Mrs. Kristin Davis, Associate Vice-President of Academic Instruction
Dr. Craig Lafferty, Dean of Health Sciences

Mrs. Leslie Legendre, Executive Assistant to the President

I. CALL TO ORDER/REVIEW AGENDA:

Dr. Heindl called the meeting of the March 18, 2026 Executive Council meeting to order.

Dr. Rush made a motion that the Executive Council approve the agenda for the Executive Council meeting dated March 18, 2026. The motion was seconded by Ms. Gordon and carried unanimously.

II. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MINUTES:

Mr. Horton made a motion that the Executive Council approve the minutes of the Executive Council meeting dated February 18, 2026 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Nickens and carried unanimously.

III. REVIEW OF ACTION TRACKER ITEMS

- Oracle/ SHS- *Ongoing.* Dr. Domas, Dr. Reed, Dr. Rush, and Dr. Lafferty
    - Dr. Lafferty shared that he was going to re-investigate this issue. The concern comes from students not being assigned to programs prior to their enrollment into the program of choice. This creates many obstacles: advising issues, student confusion, missed recruitment for programs: Nursing, Funeral Services, Welding, Electrical, etc., "pre-Program" challenges, tracking for these students, and lost opportunities.
    - Pain Points of the College- Ongoing.
        1. CONFUSION WITH ENROLLMENT & ONBOARDING
            - Dr. Rush
        2. ADVISING & DEGREE PLANNING
            - Dr. Rush
            - Dr. Lafferty

3. REGISTRATION HOLDS/STUDENT BILLING
4. SCHOLARSHIPS/FINANCIAL AID COVERAGE & COMMUNICATION
    - Dr. Rush
    - Ms. Gordon
5. PAYMENT OPTIONS, PAYMENT PLAN FLEXBILITY
    - Mr. Horton
6. COURSE AVAILABILITY & MODALITY
7. ACCESS TO FACULTY/ COMMUNICATION
8. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXPERIENCE
    - Dr. Rush
    - Recruiting
9. HOUSING & RESIDENCE LIFE - CAPACITY & WAITLIST
    - Dr. Rush
    - Ms. Gordon
10. TECHNOLOGY/WI-FI/SPAM EMAILS
    - Mr. Horton
    - Mrs. Nickens
11. CAFETERIA/DINING AVAILABILITY & OPTIONS
    - Mr. Horton
12. LACK OF PARKING AT RESIDENCE HALLS

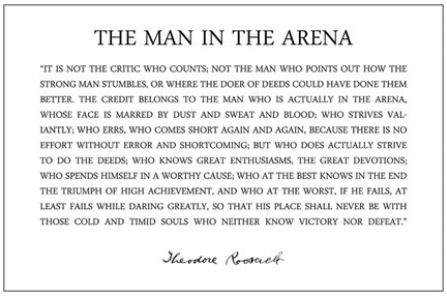
IV. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Heindl

A. Updates

Dr. Heindl welcomed everyone to Executive Council meeting in Oxford and introduced the newest addition to the Executive Council meeting, Dr. Suzanne Strehle. He mentioned that her team is streamlined into the High Schools like no other team on campus. He also shared that Oxford High School is interested in an agreement that is similar to Hinds Community College and Vicksburg School District that offers CTE training. He will send that MOU to Dr. Strehle and Mr. Casey to review.

Dr. Heindl asked that we continue to look at the Action Tracker items and update as needed.

Dr. Heindl shared a speech give by Theodore Roosevelt in 1910; *The man in the Arena.* This speech emphasizes the value of the person that is actually doing the work regardless of the outcome: good or bad is more valuable that the critic who points out all the flaws.



THE MAN IN THE ARENA

"IT IS NOT THE CRITIC WHO COUNTS; NOT THE MAN WHO POINTS OUT HOW THE STRONG MAN STUMBLES, OR WHERE THE DOER OF DEEDS COULD HAVE DONE THEM BETTER. THE CREDIT BELONGS TO THE MAN WHO IS ACTUALLY IN THE ARENA, WHOSE FACE IS MARRED BY DUST AND SWEAT AND BLOOD; WHO STRIVES VALIANTLY; WHO ERRS, WHO COMES SHORT AGAIN AND AGAIN, BECAUSE THERE IS NO EFFORT WITHOUT ERROR AND SHORTCOMING; BUT WHO DOES ACTUALLY STRIVE TO DO THE DEEDS; WHO KNOWS GREAT ENTHUSIASMS, THE GREAT DEVOTIONS; WHO SPENDS HIMSELF IN A WORTHY CAUSE; WHO AT THE BEST KNOWS IN THE END THE TRIUMPH OF HIGH ACHIEVEMENT, AND WHO AT THE WORST, IF HE FAILS, AT LEAST FAILS WHILE DARING GREATLY, SO THAT HIS PLACE SHALL NEVER BE WITH THOSE COLD AND TIMID SOULS WHO NEITHER KNOW VICTORY NOR DEFEAT."

Theodore Roosevelt

Dr. Heindl shared that Mississippi Community Colleges will potentially move to a 10-game regular season for football that includes 5 games at home and 5 games away. This will allow for a Mississippi Bowl Game: Magnolia Bowl for a playoff. This will remove the current structure of the 2-game playoff. He asked that everyone hold on the planning of Homecoming as that date is not confirmed.

Dr. Heindl shared that the Mississippi Legislature Session is almost over. There are 2 appropriation bills that will go to conference next week: SB3063, HB 4067, and HB 562.

Dr. Heindl share that the college has an opportunity to be a part of a community college consortium that would focus efforts in the state with a workforce-Pell Creation. This would be a credit programing for non-credit workforce training. Our workforce partner would be GE Aerospace in Batesville, MS. This is a "Strengthening Community Colleges Grant". Dr. Heindl and some of the leadership at the college met to discuss what this could potentially look like for workforce training and it was determined that it would be courses like construction trades: plumbing, brick/block, framing.

~~V. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Andrew Dale~~

A. Updates

VI. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Matthew Domas

A. Updates

Dr. Domas reported the following items:

- Athletics:
  - Women Basketball team are the Region 23 champions. They move forward to play Lake Charles in Dodge City on March 25, 2026.
  - Softball is 3-1 in conference.
- SACSCOC:
  - The SACSCOC document has been approved and accepted. The college has been billed for the off-site review.
- IAC:
  - Dr. Domas brought many items from IAC for review and approval:
    - BOT 1273 Intro to Microsoft Office: Course Addition
    - ENG 113 English Composition I: Prerequisite Change
    - MAT 1233 Intermediate Algebra: SLO
    - MAT 1313 College Algebra: SLO
    - MAT 1513 Business Calculus I: Description Change, SLO
    - MAT 1523 Business Calculus II: Description Change
    - MAT 1 1613 Calculus I: SLO
    - MAT 1623 Calculus II: Description Change, SLO
    - MAT 1723 Real Number System: Description Change
    - MAT 1733 Geometry, Measurement, and Probability, Description Change, SLO
    - MAT 1753 Quantitative Reasoning: Math in your world: Title Change, Description Change, SLO
    - MAT 2613 Calculus III: Description Change, SLO
    - MAT 2623 Calculus IV: Description Change, SLO

- MAT 0123 Beginning Algebra: SLO
- MAT 2323 Statistics: SLO
- MAT 2913 Differential Equations: Description Change, SLO
- CSC 1113 Computer Concepts: SLO
- CSC 1614 Computer Programming I: Description Change
- CSC 2134 Programming I with C++: SLO
- CSC 2144 Programming II with C++: Description Change, SLO
- CSC 2623 Computer Programming II: Description Change, SLO
- BIO 1533 Survey of Anatomy and Physiology, Lecture: SLO
- BIO 2521 Anatomy & Physiology II, Laboratory: SLO
- BIO 1531 Survey of A&P Lab: SLO
- CHE 1111 Chemistry Survey Lab: SLO
- CHE 1113 Chemistry Survey Lecture: SLO
- CHE 1211 General Chemistry I Lab: SLO
- CHE 1221 General Chemistry II Lab: SLO
- CHE 1311 Principles of Chemistry I Lab: SLO
- CHE 1321 Principles of Chemistry II Lab: SLO
- CHE 2421 Organic Chemistry I Lab: SLO
- CHE 2431 Organic Chemistry II Lab: SLO
- PHY 2243 Physical Science I Lecture: Description Change, SLO
- PHY 2251 Physical Science II Lab: Description Change
- PHY 2241 Physical Science I Lab: Description Change
- PHY 2253 Physical Science II Lecture: Description Change
- PHY 2413 General Physics I Lecture: SLO
- PHY 2423 General Physics II Lecture: SLO
- PHY 2513 General Physics I- A Lecture: SLO
- PHY 2523 General Physics II-A Lecture: SLO

1) Motion was made by IAC to make recommended changes to the following courses: BOT 1273 Intro to Microsoft Office: Course Addition, ENG 113 English Composition I: Prerequisite Change, MAT 1233 Intermediate Algebra: SLO, MAT 1313 College Algebra: SLO, MAT 1513 Business Calculus I: Description Change, SLO, MAT 1523 Business Calculus II: Description Change, MAT 1 1613 Calculus I: SLO, MAT 1623 Calculus II: Description Change, SLO, MAT 1723 Real Number System: Description Change, MAT 1733 Geometry, Measurement, and Probability, Description Change, SLO, MAT 1753 Quantitative Reasoning: Math in your world: Title Change, Description Change, SLO, MAT 2613 Calculus III: Description Change, SLO, MAT 2623 Calculus IV: Description Change, SLO, MAT 0123 Beginning Algebra: SLO, MAT 2323 Statistics: SLO, MAT 2913 Differential Equations: Description Change, SLO, CSC 1113 Computer Concepts: SLO, CSC 1614 Computer Programming I: Description Change, CSC 2134 Programming I with C++: SLO, CSC 2144 Programming II with C++: Description Change, SLO, CSC 2623 Computer Programming II: Description Change, SLO, BIO 1533 Survey of Anatomy and Physiology, Lecture: SLO, BIO 2521 Anatomy & Physiology II, Laboratory: SLO, BIO 1531 Survey of A&P Lab: SLO, CHE 1111 Chemistry Survey Lab: SLO, CHE 1113 Chemistry Survey Lecture: SLO, CHE 1211 General Chemistry I Lab: SLO, CHE 1221 General Chemistry II Lab: SLO, CHE 1311 Principles of Chemistry I Lab: SLO,

CHE 1321 Principles of Chemistry II Lab: SLO, CHE 2421 Organic Chemistry I Lab: SLO, CHE 2431 Organic Chemistry II Lab: SLO, PHY 2243 Physical Science I Lecture: Description Change, SLO, PHY 2251 Physical Science II Lab: Description Change, PHY 2241 Physical Science I Lab: Description Change, PHY 2253 Physical Science II Lecture: Description Change, PHY 2413 General Physics I Lecture: SLO, PHY 2423 General Physics II Lecture: SLO, PHY 2513 General Physics I- A Lecture: SLO, and PHY 2523 General Physics II-A Lecture: SLO. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jeff Horton and carried unanimously.

VII. AGENDA ITEMS- Mr. Jeff Horton

A. Update

Mr. Horton reported on the following items:

- IT
  - The new software Slate; Mrs. Abbey Casey has been certified.
  - Transact & A++ are in the process of implementation.
  - New Employee on Boarding will be through Oracle.
- Grants/Funding
  - MDOT will provide around $400,000 to replace sidewalks and create sidewalks throughout campus.
  - MEA will provide funding for a Broadway Performance on campus.
  - Grant Department is working to see if the College qualifies for FEMA funding due to the Winter Storm damage.
  - EDA Grant associated with the Ranger Center working to close out this project.
  - New:
    - Mississippi Arts Commission for Fine Arts Department $150,000. The College will match at $100,000.
    - Library Grant for $36,000 for Archives.
  - Working on a
    - BCBS Grant
    - US Department of Ed Grant.
    - US Department of Workforce Development Grant
- Heindl Center
  - March 18 Blue Man Group
  - March 28 Larry the Cable Guy
  - April 21 Riverdance
  - May 1 The Bacon Brothers
- Physical Plant
  - Oxford Health Science project: This is a Bureau of Buildings project. This should go out for bids in late summer 2026.
  - Admin Building: H-Vac Project & Window restoration in process.
  - Soccer Dugouts have been torn down.
- Business Office
  - Budget Worksheet is going out on Friday and due back on April 13, 2026.
  - PO cut off date is May 15, 2026.

- Purchasing Cards last day to use will be May 26, 2026.
- Student book cards will be turned off on March 20, 2026 and refunds will be April 7, 2026.

- HR
  - Reviews will be due by the end of April 2026.

VIII. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Tonyalle Rush

A. Update

Dr. Rush reported on the following updates:

- SEM: Dr. Rush is working to collaborate with faculty & staff for the new SEM plan. They will be addressing: How are students coming to NW? Tutors & Lab needs. How has recruitment changed?
- She thanked the faculty for using Dropout Detective. Mentioning how great of a tool this is in retention.
- Software Implementations:
  - Working with IT on Slate (CRM)
  - Working with IT on Accommodate (Counseling Service Software)
- Spring 2026 Commencement
  - May 7, 2026 School of Health Science 2:00 pm
  - May 7, 2026 Pinning Ceremony 4:00 pm
  - May 8, 2026 Last Names (A-L) 8:00 am
  - May 8, 2026 Last Names (M-Z) 11:00 am
  - May 8, 2026 CTE & Workforce 2:00 pm
- Updates:
  - Electrical & Construction Management are now FA eligible.
    - Currently, working to get VA eligibility.
  - Audit has been finalized and was successful; no issues.
  - Disbursements will be 3/24/26, Pell disbursements are around $1.6M to be refunded to students.
  - David Lee, SFA with Drivestream will be on campus March 24-25. The college is moving away from Bridges. Working with their IT team to make the transition.
  - FY27 there will be a budget cut to the work study program around $100,000.00.
- Spring Preview Days
  - March 26th DeSoto
  - April 8th Senatobia
- Scholarship Deadline is April 1, 2026.
- Community Service:
  - March 20th Pathfinders will be visiting Providence Place to help lead chair exercises and Bingo with the residents.
- Orientation Leaders have been selected and begin training on March 27th.
- Housing
  - Room reclaim closed on March 16th.
  - Denim & Pearls will be April 16th in the Rotary room at 6:00 – 8:00 pm.
- TRiO and the Department of Education have officially moved to the Department of Labor.

- Student Counseling & Disability Services
  - ACT
    - Oxford Campus March 27, 2026
    - Senatobia Campus April 24, 2026
  - National ACT April 11, 2026
- Student Activities
  - Beauty Review March 24, 2026 Heindl Center
  - Spring Formal March 31, 2026 Haraway
  - Student Leadership Luncheon April 7, 2026 Haraway

IX. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Keith Reed

A. Updates

Dr. Reed presented the following information from the DeSoto Campus:

- March 3, 2026 College Fair Landers Center
- March 14, 2026 Purpose Living Conference
- March 25th Spring Preview Day
- March 26, 2026 PTK Induction Room 323
- March 26th Friends after 5:00 pm
- March 3st – 1st Pre-registration Days
- April 1, 2026 Easter Event Tanger Mall
- April 14th Food Truck Day
- April 28th Ole Miss Graduation
- April 29th Student Appreciation Day

Dr. Reed mentioned that the Memphis Business Journal mentioned the NW Ranger Center's new construction project as a finalist.

X. AGENDA ITEMS- Ms. Patti Gordon

A. Updates

- Employee giving program, Ms. Gordon passed out a new brochure about the program. She has asked to attended departmental meetings to get the word out about the employee giving program.
- Faculty & Staff Awards program will be with Employee Appreciation Day. Kicking off the day with retirees for a breakfast at 7:30 in the Haraway Center.
- Soiree: A Garden Gala will be on April 18, 2026. She shared that current sponsor donations are $173,000.00 for this year's event compared to last year of $150,129.00.
- March 28th alumni will be gathering at the Baseball game on campus for a reunion.
- April 26th the class from 1950 will be meeting at Cracker Barrell for a reunion.
- Mike Inglish has donated to the NW Farm a side by side.
- Scholarship Selection Committee will begin meeting on April 10th, April 20th for Selections, and 23rd for a meeting.
- Ms. Gordon will let everyone know the date for ABB expansion Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

XI. AGENDA ITEMS- Mr. Dwayne Casey

A. Updates

Mr. Casey reported on the following:

- Concourse: clean up & recovery from the ice storm is underway. However, there is some issues with the Diesel space regarding flooding issues from previous owner. The physical plant is in process of addressing those issues.
- On February 23rd the CTE & Workforce hosted the Advisory breakfast. There were 160 employers & advisors in attendance.
- Made is Panola was also held in February with 22 employers and over 52 students attended the event.
- March 6th the John Deere program held its Open House and it was well attended.

XII. AGENDA ITEMS- Mrs. Angel Nickens

A. Updates

Mrs. Nickens reported on the following for eLearning Department:

- Mississippi Commission on College Accreditation has approved the college's SARA Renewal Application.
- MCCB contracted with Thompson Coburn, a leading law firm in St. Louis that focuses on federal regulations, to provide regular updates to our community college system. The next Federal update from Aaron Lacey of Thompson Coburn will be on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 2:00 – 4:00 pm. Let Mrs. Nickens know if you need the Zoom link to attend. Possible topics: Financial Aid & FAFSA, Digital Accessibility, Workforce- Oriented Funding, Increased Data Reporting & Transparency Requirements.
- Digital Accessibility Reminder: compliance deadline to meet with the DOJ ADA Title II regulations is April 24, 2026 requiring full digital accessibility across: Websites, Learning Management Systems (LMS), Online courses, videos, apps, and student systems.
- MSVCC is requesting a 3-year renewal on both Brainfuse & Dropout Detective. This will be brought to the Presidents' Association during the April meeting.

XIII. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Suzanne Strehle

A. Updates

Dr. Strehle reported on the following:

- Applications for advising began this week with 93 students enrolled.
- SSP Training
- 2 new schools have been added this year:
    - Journey Homeschool, Senatobia, MS
    - Delta Academy, Marks, MS
- Looking forward to Scholastic Institutes graduation in the planning phase for the ceremony.

XIV. AGENDA ITEMS- Dr. Craig Lafferty

A. Updates

Dr. Lafferty highlighted the following:

- March 18th in Haraway: Nursing Expo with combined RN, PN, & HCA
- Affiliation Agreement: Memphis VA for RN students to begin clinicals in Fall 2026.
    - Looking for SurgTech clinicals placement at Memphis VA.
- Exploring start-up options for Sonography Program vs Radiological Program:
    - Cost analysis of each program
    - Market needs for each degree
    - Cohort size
    - Partners for clinical sites
    - Licensure
    - Accreditation
    - Type of Degree & Length of Program
        - It has been determined that Sonography would be the better option to consider beginning at Northwest. Cost to begin is lower, there is an incredible need for Sonographers, the clinical settings require a 1:1 ratio and this would require a cohort of 8-10 students with max being 12/15, it was determined that there is no licensure issues as it allows for reciprocity, the program would be a 2 year program students completing with an Associates of Applied Science Degree, and Accreditation Process would be with CAAHEP/ARDMS.
- Practical Nursing:
    - DeSoto Campus PN program is expanding the Nights/Weekend from 15 to 30 students for Fall 2026.
    - Betty Ginn, Paula Geter, and Jessica Barham have earned the distinction of (CNEPV) Certified Nursing educators in Practical Nursing by the National League of Nursing. This achievement is recognized by the State Board of Nursing.
    - Annual PN Retreat: June 25-26, 2026 at the Haraway. This will include the directors and deans from the 15 other community colleges to include Blue Cliff.
    - The Site Survey is completed for Accreditation. Meeting is April 28-29, 2026.
- Surgical Tech
    - St. Jude has a donation of equipment for the SurgTech Program. They have asked us to bring students to the meeting and are interested in discussing a possible clinical affiliation. Undetermined date for a meeting with St. Jude.
    - Meridian Institute of Surgical Assisting has approved the Northwest Surgical program students to apply to their program. Baptist will pay the tuition for 3 Northwest graduates to apply and attend this program. ($68,000 per student) Students who complete this program will finish with a distinction of 1st Assistant. All thanks go to the work of Lyndsey Powell for working to get this for Northwest graduates.

- Dr. Heindl asked that Dr. Lafferty let the communication department know about these great opportunities for the students.

XV. AGENDA ITEMS- Mrs. Kristin Davis

A. Updates

Mrs. Davis highlighted the following:

- The shift to virtual learning significantly increased faculty workload, and that impact continues to be felt. A large number of absence appeals have already started.
- The summer and fall schedules are now open for edits, with pre-registration beginning in April.
- Campus & Academic Highlights
  - Lucia Nelson will present From Museum to Music: The Appropriation of Fine Art in Album Covers on March 27 at 10 a.m., Haraway Center 102.
- Library
  - "Fireside Chats" series:
    March 20: Matt Johnson presenting on the Gilded Age
  - Presentations at the Society of Mississippi Archivists, University of Southern Mississippi, March 26–27 (Suzy, Maya, Victoria J., Dr. Wright).
- Departmental Updates
  - Retirements: Leelee Haraway, Lance Mejia, Melissa Cannon, John Ungurait, Dr. P. Adris
- Humanities
  - 4/10 9-1: Mississippi Community College Creative Writing Association Conference & Awards at Heindl Center, 12 Lunch Band Practice Hall
  - 4/21 2pm: Passage Reception Humanities 106
- Fine Arts
  - Theatre
    4/17-26: Spring Musical Damn Yankees
  - Music
    3/2–6: MHSAA State Band Evaluations-72 Bands, 4000 students, plus band directors, administrators, and parents
    3/20: Choir Audition Day
    3/26–27: AMCCCM Festival
    3/31: Studio Rock Band Concert
    4/9: Ranger Records Release Concert
    4/10: MCCCWA Annual Conference
    4/14: Spring Choir Concert
    4/23: Les Fauves Art Sale
    4/23: Emerging Artist Recital
    4/28: Jazz Ensembles Concert
    4/30: Concert Bands Concert

XVI. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Horton.