Faculty Senate Minutes February 21, 2013

Missouri University of Science and Technology Faculty Senate

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Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 13:32 by President S.N. Balakrishnan and roll was taken.

Those whose names are grayed out below were absent.


Approval of January 24, 2013 meeting minutes

The January 24, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Campus Reports and Responses

A. President’s Report – S.N. Balakrishnan

Dr. Balakrishnan reported that the VPAA and VPUS candidate interviews and open forums were currently in progress. He encouraged attendance of the open forums.

Dr. Balakrishnan reported on the February 20th IFC meeting. Items discussed were: A search committee has been formed for the new position of UM System Vice President for Academic Affairs, the bond issue, the Governor and House are discussing budgets, and NTT for clinical department faculty at MU and UMKC. Other items discussed from the IFC meeting were: retention and graduation are two of the five performance metrics for UM System campuses, dollars that the Governor has released, and Western Governors University. The final item of the President’s report was that MU is pursuing shared governance practices especially with regards to budget.

Details can be found at the following link:
http://faculty senate.mst.edu/media/campussupport/facultysenate/documents/presidentreports/2013/FS_Slides_February_2013.pptx
B. Administrative Reports
   i. Chancellor Schrader

Chancellor Schrader had the opportunity to visit with alumni during her stay in Florida. She met with four couples on Friday, February 15th and four couples on Saturday, February 16th. Roger and Jean Truitt hosted a dinner for Chancellor Schrader and about 30 alumni from that area. Roger Truitt was a commencement speaker at the December 2012 graduation ceremonies.

On February 4th, the Governor announced that he was releasing the 1% that was withheld from this year’s budget. That is the 3.98M that Dr. Balakrishnan mentioned earlier. This is rate money, so it goes on year after year provided it is not reduced. Since we are halfway through this current year, the 3.98 for this year will be used as a one-time fund allocation. Half will be for need based scholarships distributed the same as the lottery funds were distributed last year. That is based on ratio of the Pell-eligible students divided by the total student head count. The other half will be invested to help in terms of retention because of the performance measures which we want to make sure we continue to meet.

The rate money from FY14 onward is being considered as new money. The University of Missouri System will be distributing new money based on the strength of the Strategic Plan and how well we meet the System level criteria.

Chancellor Schrader wanted to provide a little information in terms of what is happening in terms of higher education funding. There are currently three different higher ed allocation scenarios being considered. One is the Governor’s which is entirely performance-based. It doesn’t recognize what disciplines you graduate and it doesn’t recognize enrollment. There is a formula that is being created through a joint committee on education and they are in the third revision of that. They are getting ready to hand over to an implementation committee as well.

The Governor did recommend a 4.3% increase to higher ed. That includes the 1% that was already given back, so it is actually 3%. The Legislature revised that to 2% because the Governor’s budget was based on some additional revenues that will only come to pass when certain bills are also passed.

The UM System receives funds as a whole from the state. The allocation within the System will not be allocated historically; it will be allocated based on the Strategic Plan and System level criteria.
What we are seeing in a budget forecast scenario: we are currently looking at a $2.4M planning deficit on this campus. We have been challenged to come up with a 3% salary pool and a 1 – 2% strategic matching pool in order to be able to capture those new monies that would be coming into the system.

Budget is going to continue to be a challenge. We are in the new normal of taking a look at how we can continue to be most effective and efficient with those funds that we have, and be able to move forward with some of our strategic initiatives that were identified.

We are searching for a Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration. The focus is on finance. We need to be able to do the forecasting in a way that will allow us to be proactive in making sure that we have that sustainable future. The first meeting of the search committee was held on Wednesday, February 20th. The Chair of the committee is Larry Gragg. The committee members are listed in an email that will be coming out from the Chancellor’s office as well as a website to view the progress of the search committee. This position is not limited to academia. We are using a consulting firm who’s known for its experience in financial searches. About a year and a half ago, they helped bring in UMKC’s restructured Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration. They also helped in searches for the Treasurer at System level.

Chancellor Schrader gave an update for the announcement at the January Faculty Senate meeting regarding the appointment of the new Curators. Two of those Curators have been confirmed. Ann Covington of Columbia and John Phillips of Kansas City took the oath of office and they participated in the last Board of Curators meeting. They are both eager to learn more about the S&T campus. The Governor pulled the nomination of Michael Ponder of Cape Girardeau so there is one final Curators slot remaining to be filled.

We will have the opportunity to host an orientation on this campus before the April Board of Curators meeting. It’s a new format. We now have eight hours as opposed to three or four hours. They will be coming in on the Wednesday afternoon. We will have the opportunity to bring in some of our Trustees to interact with the Curators that Wednesday evening. We will also have the morning of Thursday. Please contact Linda Bramel with any ideas or suggestions of what they should know or see during their visit here.

The last two times we were scheduled for the new Curators orientation, the Board cancelled those. This time we will actually be orienting six of the nine Board members. This is a great opportunity.
Saturday, February 23rd, is the third annual Missouri FIRST Tech Challenge from 12:00 – 6:00 PM in the Gale Bullman Multi-Purpose Building. This event will be live-streamed on the web and it will also be viewed live at the St. Louis Science Center.

February 27th, 2:00 PM, will be the dedication of the Burns & McDonnell Student Success Center which is in Room 198 Toomey Hall. Representatives from Burns & McDonnell will be in attendance.

Chancellor Schrader closed by thanking the faculty for setting up the meetings with the General Officers. Unfortunately Nikki Krawitz had to cancel today; however, there was great response from Steve Owens’ visit here.

Chancellor Schrader also expressed thanks for the program on April 12th for the Board of Curators breakfast and also in helping improve the General Officers’ understanding of the unique nature of this campus and the value it brings to the System.

Dr. Balakrishnan took this opportunity to thank Chancellor Schrader and Provost Wray for helping the Faculty Senate organize the meetings with Steve Owens and Nikki Krawitz.

ii. Provost Wray

Provost Wray noted that the open house for the new EEC facilities in St. Louis which had been scheduled for Friday, February 22nd, has been postponed. It will be rescheduled for some time in the summer.

Provost Wray reported on Global Learning, Office of Graduate Studies, Office of Sponsored Programs, and the Technology Transfer Metrics YTD.

Congratulations to Cihan Dagli for receiving a new patent and Delbert Day for the two new patents he received.

Enrollment Management was the final topic discussed.

Details may be found at the following link:
http://facultysenate.mst.edu/media/campussupport/facultysenate/documents/provost/2013/Faculty_Senate_Report_February_2013.ppt

C. Staff Council Report – Bridgette Betz

Bridgett reported that Staff Day will be May 29th. Staff Council will be sponsoring the lunch as they have the past two years. New this year, the lunch
will include part-time, benefit eligible staff in addition to full-time, benefit eligible staff.

Next month they will be soliciting nominations for Staff Council representatives as well as for Staff Excellence Awards. Nine awards are given out each year during Staff Day. They are monetary awards. If you wish to nominate staff, look for more information next month.

D. Student Council – Ryan Beck

Campaigning is currently in process. The next student body President will be announced on Friday, March 1st.

The week of February 25 – March 1 will be Human Trafficking Awareness Week. A number of organizations on campus have come together to promote awareness for human trafficking. There are 27 million people estimated to be in human trafficking right now. Various events will take place all week. There will be speakers regarding this matter on February 28th, 7:00 PM, at St. Pat’s.

Student Council is still working on Preparation Week. A survey should be sent out to faculty for their opinion on a Preparation Week near the end of finals and also regarding having class and tests on Career Fair days.

They are working on a Safe Rides program. This program is basically a sober driver campus-wide for students that aren’t involved in the Greek fraternities and aren’t able to have a sober driver. It will hopefully utilize local taxi services to pick them up so they don’t have to start from scratch with a whole new system.

Student Council is also working on having a co-curricular transcript worked up. Students will be able to put their involvement on a co-curricular transcript and companies and employers will be able to know that a student is involved in the organizations which they say they are involved in.

After talking to other student body Presidents and employers, we are looking at ways to combine co-ops and internships with distance learning and the global learning practices. You could take a co-op and do block scheduling e.g. three days of work and two days of classes while you are away.

Mr. (Ted) Ruth (Director of Design & Construction Management for Facilities Operations) is addressing a number of issues on campus. They are looking at removing the fire hydrant by the Puck and adding a drinking fountain there. They have already added more bike racks. They are looking at replacing the sidewalk stones that are loose on campus and fixing the low spots.

Ryan thanked the Faculty Senate for passing the Academic Forgiveness Policy and all that worked on it. He noted that the students were very pleased with it.
Students have been very involved with the Strategic Planning sessions and the search committees.

At this time, Dr. Balakrishnan noted that the two students he had the opportunity to work with on the Strategic Planning sessions shared as many ideas as the veterans on the committee. He also voiced appreciation for the student representative for RP&A and her valuable participation with that committee.

E. Council of Graduate Students – Mohammad Alkazimi – unable to attend

IV. Vice President for Finance and Administration Address - cancelled

V. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
   A. Rules, Procedures and Agenda – Michael Davis

   RP&A did not have any motions or referrals to bring forward.

   They are in the process of dealing with a few issues which should be coming at the March and April meetings.

   B. Curricula – Daniel Tauritz

   The Campus Curricula Committee moves for the approval of this reports DC and CC forms. This includes 8 Degree Change (DC) forms: DC 0434, DC 0442, DC 0444, DC 0445, DC 0446, DC0447, DC 0448, DC 0449, 51 Course Change (CC) forms, and 7 Experimental Course (EC) forms (informational only).

   Discussion ensued.

   A motion to approve the submitted forms as posted on the web was passed unanimously.

   Details may be found at the following links:
   Curricula.Report.FS.02.21.13
   Curricula.Slides.FS.02.21.13

   C. Budgetary Affairs – Barbara Hale

   Dr. Hale gave a summary of the S&T General Operating Budget: FY2013 and FY2014 (preliminary assumptions). The following links were provided:
   UM FY2013 Operating Budget Information
   http://www.umystem.edu/ums/fa/budget/operating/

   S&T FY2013-14 Budget Information
   http://web.mst.edu/~hale/BAC
Dr. Hale reported on the FY2013 Current Funds Budget, FY13 Budget Reductions, FY2013 Re-Investment Strategy, 2013 General Revenue Salary Allocation Increases, and FY14 Preliminary GRA (General Revenue Allocation) Budget Planning.

Dr. Hale concluded with a comparison with other campuses.

Discussion ensued.

Details may be found at the following link: 
http://facultysenate.mst.edu/media/campussupport/facultysenate/documents/bac/2013/BAC_Faculty_Senate_Report_February_21_2013_2ndfinal_1.pptx

D. ITCC – Thomas Vojta for Donald Wunsch

Dr. Vojta highlighted the main points of Dr. Wunsch’s presentation. Dr. Vojta reported on some elections that had taken place, the Library/IT presentation on replacing Documentum with Dspace, a report presented on the status, timeline, and lessons learned from last fall’s security computer incident, and BPM-911 is being revised.

Dr. Vojta then presented three motions which ITCC has passed.

Some discussion ensued.

Details may be found at the following link: 

Provost Wray took a moment at the end of this presentation to introduce the new CIO, Greg Smith.

VI. Old Business

A. Report on Current Referrals and Actionable Items

No report.

VII. New Business and Announcements - none

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 14:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Martin Bohner, Secretary