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Faculty Senate Minutes January 21, 2010

Missouri University of Science and Technology Faculty Senate

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**Volume III, Number 4
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
January 21, 2010**

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 13:30 by President Michael Schulz and roll was taken.

Those whose names are grayed out below were absent.

Levent Acar, Baojun Bai, S.N. Balakrishnan, Gretchen Brockfeld, Brenden Burke, Michael Davis, Fikret Ercal, Bill Fahrenholtz, Mark Fitch, Daniel Forciniti, Ron Frank, Steve Grant, Barbara Hale, Richard Hall, Lance Haynes, K.M. Isaac, Morris Kalliny, Kurt Kosbar, Ray Luechtefeld, Ronaldo Luna, Sanjay Madria, Jim Martin, Michael Meagher, Julia Medvedeva, Scott Miller, Ilene Morgan, Mark Mullin, Keith Nisbett, Ken Ragsdell, Robert Roe, Pericles Stavropoulos, Richard Stephenson, Trent Watts, Klaus Woelk, Paul Worsey, Chengshan Xiao

The following substitutions were noted. Cesar Mendoza for Ronaldo Luna, Joel Burken for Mark Fitch, and Bob Schwartz for Warren Wray.

The November 19, 2009 meeting minutes were **approved** as submitted.

II. Campus Reports and Responses

a. President Report – Michael Schulz

Michael Schulz reported on salary raises survey, Conflict of Interest Policy, and Intellectual Property Rights.

Details can be found at the following links:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/presidentreports/PresidentReport.01.21.10.pptx>

http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/misc/Inst_Conflict_of_Int_Task_Force.pdf

http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/misc/Ownership_of_Student_Developed_Inventions.01.21.10.pdf

b. Administrative Report – Chancellor John F. Carney III

Chancellor Carney reported on the Governor's State of the State address. The Governor hopes to only cut our budget by 5.2% in exchange for no tuition increase.

The Career Fair is scheduled for February 9, 2010.

Renovation of the old Holsum Bread Building to accommodate the Student Design Center will begin soon.

Keith Bailey, an alumnus, donated \$500,000 to support building an indoor practice facility for the Athletic department.

An announcement will be made shortly as to who will be the first to build on the Innovation Park. This is a \$2.5 million dollar project.

The Minor Alumni Association has purchased the movie theatre on the corner of 11th and Pine and the adjoining property. They will build a \$2.5 million dollar Alumni House.

Miner Pride Weekend, April 23, 2010

- Ground- breaking for the Alumni House
- Order of the Golden Shillelagh (OGS) will be here
- Trustees will be here
- Celebration for our successful capital campaign- \$198.7 million as of December 31st

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/CarneyFS.01.21.10.pdf>

c. Administrative Report – Vice Provost Schwartz for Provost Wray

Vice Provost Schwartz gave reports on the offices of Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, Global Learning, Graduate Studies, Information Technology, International Affairs, Sponsored Programs and Undergraduate Studies.

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/DrWray.FS.Report.01.21.10.ppt>

d. Staff Council Report – Wade Jadwin

Wade Jadwin gave a report on Staff Council activities, Staff Recognition Day, and MS Casual Day. Staff Council is working on the details to collect items/donations for the Haiti earthquake victims.

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/Staff.Council.01.21.10.pptx>

e. Student Council Report – Paul Voss

A blood drive will be held on campus February 2-5, 2010.

The Student Organization Recognition Committee will be nominating four faculty members to serve on this committee.

Currently there are 3 students running for Student Body President.

The Student Fee Structure will be presented to the Board of Curators next week.

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/Student.Council.FS.Report.01.22.09.pdf>

f. Council of Graduate Students – No Report

III. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

a. RP&A – Greg Gelles

RPA made the following referrals:

Referral to Academic Freedom and Standards/Class Size and Academic Quality

Referral to Intercampus Faculty Council/Role of Faculty Representatives

Appointed to Committees

Referral to Budgetary Affairs/Budget Cuts

RP&A made the following motion: Whereas faculty members are occasionally appointed to campus or system-level committees by members of the administration, and whereas, in this capacity, said faculty members are occasionally asked for their views on matters of policy or practice affecting the faculty, the Faculty Senate wishes to remind all parties that the Senate is the statutory body authorized to speak for the faculty, and that, as such, faculty are obligated to make clear that views given without consulting the Senate are to be regarded only as their own personal views.

Such faculty are further enjoined to report to the Senate whenever they feel they are being asked to provide input representative of the faculty, or that their input may be so regarded, in order that such input can be appropriately ascertained and provided.

The motion passed unanimously.

Greg Gelles reported on Standing Committee issues and the need to replace the open representative slot on the Facilities Planning Committee.

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/rpa/reports/RPA.Gelles.01.21.10.ppt>

b. Curricula Committee – Keith Nisbett

The Missouri S&T Campus Curricula Committee recommended that the curriculum changes and degree proposals be approved. There were 3 Degree Changes (DC), 69 Course Changes (CC) and 15 Experimental Course (EC) forms. Note that CC 7894-IDE 200, Special Problems Class was withdrawn from the course changes in this report.

A motion to approve the submitted forms as posted on the web minus the CC 7894 was passed unanimously.

Keith Nisbett reported on the request for a Special Program for the Sustainability Minor. The Curricula Committee recommends that the proposal to create the Special Program be approved. The proposal defines the composition and responsibilities of the Special Program. Once constituted, the Special Program may submit a DC for a Sustainability Minor.

A motion from the Curricula Committee recommending approval of this request for a Special Program for a Sustainability Minor was passed.

Details can be found at the following link:

[http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/Curricula.01.21.10.Proposal -
_Sustainability_Minor.pdf](http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/Curricula.01.21.10.Proposal_-_Sustainability_Minor.pdf)

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/Curricula.01.21.10.pdf>

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/curricula/Curricula.Slides.01.21.10.ppt>

c. Public Occasions – David Westenberg

The Public Occasions Committee proposed dates for Open Houses in the 2010-2011 Academic Calendar.

A motion to approve the Open House dates was passed unanimously.

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/publicoccasions/POCommittee.Rpt.01.21.10.pdf>

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/publicoccasions/POCommittee.01.21.10.ppt>

d. Budgetary Affairs – Barbara Hale

Barbara Hale gave a report to partially respond to the referral FS0910ref-2 with respect to the overall budget. The Budgetary Affairs Committee provided short and long term scenarios for meeting the budget deficits.

Details can be found at the following link:

<http://facultysenate.mst.edu/documents/bac/BAC.01.21.10.pdf>

IV. Old Business

By-laws – M. Schulz

The latest revisions to the by-law were approved by the General Faculty and forwarded to UM Legal for review. Chancellor Carney will check on the status but it was determined that it was not likely to get this on the Board of Curators agenda for the January meeting. The next meeting date of the Board is April 15-16th at S&T.

V. New Business and Announcements

Benefits Report – Betsy Rodriguez, Vice President, Human Resources

Betsy Rodriguez gave an update on benefits. There was an increase of 1.5% in benefit costs for the University due to premium increases in the health care program. Employees pay a portion of the premium, so payroll deductions were increased beginning in January (the fiscal year is the calendar year for benefits).

The value of the assets in the pension fund fell approximately \$400 million dollars last year from an initial value of nearly \$3 billion dollars. The pension fund has always been fully funded (an actuarial calculation that requires the fund to be of sufficient value to meet all anticipated benefits). A five-year average is used to determine the University contribution required to maintain full funding so that annual market fluctuations, such as occurred last year, are dampened. Though dampened by five-year average, the University contribution required to maintain full funding increased dramatically. Fortunately, the required contribution is well below the predicted amount that was determined when the pension fund was down nearly \$1 billion dollars. The University budgeted 7% of payroll for the pension fund and will use funds from the employee contributions that were instituted and from the Stabilization Fund (current value of approximately \$40 million dollars) to make up the difference. There are no plans to alter the employee contribution of 1% up to \$50,000 and 2% on dollars above that.

An employee survey will be going out asking employees to provide feedback about pay and benefits. The survey is attempting to determine what employees value the most in benefits. This is simply a way to analyze the different pay and benefit “combinations” that employees prefer. This survey is NOT about cutting benefits, it

is about allocating funds to those benefits that are of the highest value. Every employee was encouraged to participate in the survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Neil Book, Secretary