



15 Jun 2017

Faculty Senate Minutes Jun. 15, 2017

Missouri University of Science and Technology Faculty Senate

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Recommended Citation

Missouri University of Science and Technology Faculty Senate, "Faculty Senate Minutes Jun. 15, 2017" (2017). *Minutes & Agendas*. 117.
https://scholarsmine.mst.edu/facsenate_min/117

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Volume X, Number 11
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
June 15, 2017

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Schuman. Roll was called by Secretary Steven Corns for Barbara Hale. Those whose names are grayed out below were absent.

William Bragg, Lance Haynes, Audra Merfeld-Langston, Mark Mullin, (Ron Frank for) David Westenberg, Craig Claybaugh, Fui-Hoon Nah, Daniel Forciniti, Ali Rownaghi, Richard Dawes, (Tom Schuman for) Jeffrey Winiarz, Klaus Woelk, Joel Burken, Mark Fitch, (Daniel Tauritz for) Fikret Ercal, (Ali Hurson for) Chaman Sabharwal, Michael Davis, Levent Acar, Kurt Kosbar, (Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani for) James Drewniak, Maciej Zawodniok, David Wright, K. C. Dolan, Steven Corns, (Steven Raper for) Abhijit Gosavi, (Francisca Oboh-Ikuenobe for) Ralph Flori, Wan Yang, (Michael Bruening for) Kathleen Sheppard, David Van Aken, (Jeff Smith for) Wayne Huebner, Martin Bohner, Akim Adekpedjou, (Robert Landers for) S.N. Balakrishnan, Umit Koylu, Gearoid MacSithigh, Ashok Midha, Otis Register, Shoaib Usman, Paul Worsey, Barbara Hale, Ulrich Jentschura, Amber Henslee

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 20, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

III. Campus Reports and Responses

A. President's Report

President Tom Schuman began his report by discussing recent Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) topics. IFC met June 12 to discuss progress on budgeting and program review at all four campuses. IFC also talked about recent UM actions announced by System President Choi. In planning for 2017-18 IFC, two likely areas of focus are NTT faculty workload and faculty teaching evaluations.

Dr. Schuman stated that the process of prioritizing academic programs and services is underway. UMKC, Mizzou and UMSL are using "Academic Analytics". Forms have been sent to S&T department chairs for completion but there seems to be some question regarding the accuracy of the data provided by Institutional Research and Assessment.

President Choi asked if the S&T campus is using Academic Analytics since we are currently paying for the subscription at a substantial cost. He explained that the numbers tend to run a couple of years behind. Dr. Brow commented that the College of Engineering and Computing has used the program to evaluate where we are.

Dr. Schuman welcomed Interim Chancellor Chris Maples to his first S&T Faculty Senate Meeting. He reported that Dr. Maples met with the Faculty Senate Officers on Monday, June 12. The meeting was an exchange of information regarding Faculty Senate and Intercampus Faculty Council information, our bylaws status, and other topics being explored by those groups.

One of those items is President Choi's desire for a System-wide policy/statement on Freedom of Expression. UMC generated a Freedom of Expression statement based on one adopted by the University of Chicago. President Schuman reported that IFC has endorsed the UMC proposed statement and he is seeking Faculty Senate endorsement, as well. It was pointed out that with the current Title IX Collected Rules and Regulations, a Freedom of Expression statement is not absolutely necessary, but is appropriate in light of recent events on the UMC campus.

Motion: Mark Fitch moved for Faculty Senate to adopt the UMC version of the statement as distributed. The motion was seconded. *The motion passed with 4 abstentions.*

Details of the report are available at the following link:
[PresidentReport.6.15.17](#)

B. Administrative Reports

i. Chancellor's Report

Interim Chancellor Chris Maples thanked everyone for attending and for the warm welcome he has received. Dr. Maples said his goal in moving forward is to use this body as a way to get input, bounce ideas and involve a faculty voice long-term in the way the campus moves forward.

Chancellor Maples stated that there are lots of things currently going on, including program prioritization. He emphasized that even in a budget reduction scenario, program prioritization can mean for us opportunities to build, and move, and focus in areas where we can make a dramatic positive impact.

Dr. Maples stated that in his first Chancellor's Report to the Faculty Senate, he wants to talk about things that are happening and answer questions. He said that he and his wife plan to live in the Chancellor's Residence. It is his intention to host events, meet with faculty, chairs and center directors. He commented that although he will have an open door policy, he will not be in the office at all times; he will be out on campus getting to know faculty, staff and students. At that time, the Chancellor opened the floor for questions and comments.

Dr. Klaus Woelk commented that he appreciates the open door policy and has already seen it in action.

Chancellor Maples said for those who have not been in the Chancellor's Office recently, he is putting student art in the Office and that one wall will be a rotating piece of student art. He also has added four books signed by faculty authors, which will stay in the office when he leaves. Dr. Maples disclosed that he intends to focus on getting students graduated, how we deal with the number of students currently in freshman engineering who aren't making progress, the length of time to graduation, and other similar topics.

Adrian Melnychuk, from the Council of Graduate Students (CGS), commented that CGS would love to have an audience with him. Chancellor Maples indicated he would look forward to meeting with CGS.

Gearoid MacSithigh asked about the two or three biggest things Chancellor Maples hopes to accomplish in the next year. Dr. Maples said he hopes to move the university more toward research and graduate programs. He said we are at that threshold where we can do more in terms of research productivity and support the space for research. He indicated he also wants to spend a lot of his time uniting the campus in terms of being a university of science and technology, not an engineering school or a CASB college, and one that focusses on student success. Dr. Maples defined student success as students graduating. He stated that if we are on the right trajectory, the value of our alumni degrees goes up through time as they become increasingly proud of having a degree from here. He added that much of what the faculty does is to hold that bar, hold that metric, hold those standards.

President Schuman asked Dr. Maples to address his thoughts on using the Dickenson method of program review. The Chancellor said we need to take a hard look at the kind of review we are doing. We need to make sure that the data we are getting are answering the questions we need answered. In response to a question from the floor, Dr. Maples said the objective of program assessment is to look at and think about some benchmarks in order to see what we are doing well and where we can make improvements.

Dr. Maples was asked if he plans to take a look at helping graduate students, in particular Ph.D. students, finish their degrees. He affirmed that he does intend to look at that issue, including the aspect of providing married student housing in order to aid in recruiting graduate students, especially from outside the university.

**ii. Provost's Report
- NO REPORT**

C. Staff Council Report

Sylvia Dees presented the Staff Council Report for Beth Abner, who was attending a conference. Sylvia reported that Staff Council is supporting a Hometown Heroes Saves Blood Drive on June 29-30. She also gave a recap of Staff Day, which was very successful. \$765 was raised to help fund the Staff Scholarship fund, which is enough to provide scholarships for three staff members. Staff Council thanked everyone for their participation and support. Additionally, Sylvia thanked Dr. Maples for what he is doing to unite the university.

Diana Ahmad asked if anyone can contribute to the scholarship fund. Sylvia confirmed that anyone can contribute to the fund. She went on to say that the Development Office is working on making arrangements for payroll deductions. Anyone who wants to contribute can contact Shasta Lawrence.

Details of the report are available at the following link:

[Staff.Council.6.16.17](#)

[Staff Scholarship Program Flyer](#)

D. Student Council

- NO REPORT

E. Council of Graduate Students

- NO REPORT

IV. Guest Speaker: UM System President Choi

Dr. Schuman welcomed guest speaker, UM President Mun Choi. Dr. Choi shared with the Senate how proud he is of the campus, stating that in spite of the discord of recent years, we have to remember what our objectives are: to provide an outstanding education, enable faculty members to do very innovative, impactful work, and bring a sense of community to this campus.

President Choi thanked Robert Marley, Dick Brow, and Chris Maples for their efforts in supporting the Advanced Construction and Materials Lab. He briefly discussed where we are on the ASU Metrics for top 200 institutions, faculty counts, and space deficits. He went on to look at where we are in terms of metrics related to student success.

Dr. Choi expressed his astonishment that a school that is as prominent as S&T accepts over 88% of its applicants, adding that if we are not creating a demand that is a problem. He stressed that marketing and communication is key to bringing in the best faculty; we should be emphasizing the research that is done here, and talking about the starting salary of our graduates.

President Choi also commented on our graduation rate compared to our peers. He recognized the fact that many of our students regularly participate in internships and coops, but he stressed that with the quality of the students we bring in, our 6 year graduation rate should be higher.

Dr. Choi mentioned that other problem areas we face are faculty and staff compensation, and research dollars brought in compared to our peer institutions. He also discussed where our students come from and areas that could be targeted. He underscored that we have to look beyond the campus to share with the state what our economic impact can be.

President Choi talked about the strategic investments that have been made in S&T including strategic faculty hires, the ACML Building, staff hires for teaching and research support and advising, and also about our strategic objectives. He closed his formal presentation by focusing on our search for a new chancellor.

Dr. Choi then mentioned that in meeting with some of the student groups on campus, he had heard complaints that many of our graduate students have been required to do work for their faculty advisors beyond the classroom, such as cutting grass, picking them up from the airport, etc. He commented that while he believes only a few faculty are guilty of this behavior, it is unacceptable and must be stopped. He also shared a concern regarding commitment to teaching. He stressed that if a faculty member consistently receives very low teaching evaluations, there is a problem. He then opened the floor for questions.

Tom Schuman asked what our mission is as an outreach to a mostly agricultural state. Dr. Choi stated that we have to take a comprehensive approach. He mentioned an initiative in which UMKC is participating that utilizes some of the analytic and technological approaches to farming. He commented that S&T can make a real impact in that kind of an approach.

In response to a question about the UM Research Board Program, Dr. Choi affirmed that he halted the program in order to use the funds strategically.

Details of the report are available at the following link:
[Choi.Report.6.15.17](#)

V. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

A. Curricula Committee

Professor Schuman presented the Curricula Committee report stating that the Curricula Committee met on May 9 to review eleven degree change requests, thirty-four course change requests, and thirteen experimental course requests.

Motion: The Curriculum Committee moves for Faculty Senate to approve the DC and CC form actions.

The motion passed.

Motion: The curriculum Committee moves for approval of changes to all undergraduate engineering (freshman) program requirements:

“The degree program shall include a minimum of 21 credit hours as follows:

- ENGLISH 1120
- HISTORY 1200 or HISTORY 1300 or HISTORY 1310 or POL SCI 1200
- ECON 1100 or ECON 1200
- Communication Elective: ENGL 1160 or ENGL/TCH COM 1600 or ENGL 3560 or SP&M 1185

“The remaining minimum of 9 additional credit hours must be chosen from disciplines in the humanities and social sciences.* Humanities courses are defined as those in: Art, English and Technical Communication, Etymology, Foreign Languages, Music, Philosophy, Speech and Media Studies, and Theatre. Social Sciences courses are defined as those in: Economics, History, Political Science, and Psychology. Some curricula may require the completion of a specified number of upper-level Humanities/Social Sciences (H/SS) courses. Upper-level H/SS courses are defined as those at the 2000-level or above, and that require as a prerequisite the successful completion of a lower-level H/SS course. Study abroad courses may count as upper-level H/SS courses, even if they do not have a prerequisite. H/SS courses numbered 2001, 3001, and 4001 (experimental courses) may also be used to complete these elective requirements.

“Courses in business, education, information science and technology, or any other discipline not listed above will not satisfy the humanities/social sciences elective requirement, although such courses may count toward general education requirements. Transfer credits from other universities in sociology and general humanities may count as humanities or social science electives.

*ENGL 1160, ENGL/TCH COM 1600, ENGL 3560, and SP&M 1185 do not count toward the remaining minimum of 9 additional credit hours in humanities/social sciences electives.”

To become effective: Fall 2017 semester.

The motion passed with two abstentions.

**B. Information Technology and Computing
- NO REPORT**

C. Rules, Procedures, and Agenda

Mark Fitch opened by mentioning that it was discovered following the April committee elections that there were indeed nominees from two departments that had been inadvertently left off of the list of nominees. In addition, some faculty were assigned to too many committees, making it necessary to find replacements.

Academic Freedom and Standards – three available from department nominations

The highest vote recipients were Patrick Huber, Douglas Ludlow, and Mark Schlesinger. IT was noticed that Patrick Huber was listed both as a nominee and a continuing member of AF&S.

Therefore, Douglas Ludlow, Kurt Kosbar and Mark Schlesinger were elected.
(2 yr. terms each)

Budgetary Affairs – 2 available from department nominations

Kris Swenson, Al Crosbie (2 yr. terms)

Personnel – one available from department nominations

Levent Acar (2 yr. term)

Student Affairs – one elected from and by Faculty Senate

Levent Acar (one yr. term)

V. Old Business

VI. New Business and Announcements

Kurt Kosbar brought up concern from department chairs over the last couple of years over the short period of time between the call for nominees for committee elections and the time when the nominations were due. He added that this year, there was the complication of errors on some of the ballots.

Motion: Dr. Kosbar moved that in future years for RP&A to send the announcement to the department chairs one month prior to give them time to conduct the department elections and then have RP&A post the ballots with the agenda one week prior to the Faculty Senate meeting.

The motion was seconded. *The motion passed.*

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani, asked if Dr. Fitch had discussed the referral from RP&A to the Committee for Effective Teaching (CET). Dr. Fitch explained that the referral occurred but that the CET was without a chair due to the passing of Dr. Tim Philpot. Therefore, RP&A decided to make the referral to the committee as the first item of business in the next academic year.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Hale, Secretary