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Faculty Senate Minutes Sep. 14, 2017

Missouri University of Science and Technology Faculty Senate

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Volume XI, Number 1
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
September 14, 2017

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Past President Tom Schuman, who presented a gavel to incoming President Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani.

Roll was called by Secretary Steven Corns. Those whose names are grayed out below were absent.

Brent Unger, (Max Tohline for) Audra Merfeld-Langston, Mark Mullin, (Yue-wern Huang for) David Westenberg, Craig Claybaugh, (Mike Hilgers for) Fui-Hoon Nah, Parthasakha Neogi, Jee Ching Wang, Jeffrey Winiarz, Klaus Woelk, Mark Fitch, Jianmin Wang; (George Markowsky for) Fikret Ercal, Chaman Sabharwal, Michael Davis, Levent Acar, James Drewniak, Kurt Kosbar, Maciej Zawodniok, Steven Corns, Steve Raper, Trent Brown, K. C. Dolan, Norbert Maerz, David Wronkiewicz, Kathleen Sheppard, Wayne Huebner, David Van Aken, Akim Adekpedjou, Martin Bohner, S.N. Balakrishnan, Umit Koylu, Robert Landers, Gearoid MacSithigh, Otis Register, Shoaib Usman, Paul Worsey, Barbara Hale, Ulrich Jentschura, Amber Henslee

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 15, 2017 meeting were approved as submitted.

III. Campus Reports and Responses

A. President's Report

Professor Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani began her report by introducing the slate of officers for AY 2017-2018:

President, Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani (Electrical and Computer Engineering)
Past President, Tom Schuman (Chemistry)
President-Elect, Michael Bruening (History and Political Science)
Secretary, Steven Corns (Engr. Management and Systems Engr.)
Parliamentarian, Richard Dawes (Chemistry)

The following resolution was adopted unanimously:

Whereas Professor Schuman has served the Faculty Senate of the Missouri University of Science and Technology as President-Elect (2015-2016) and as President (2016-2017);

Whereas, Professor Schuman has served as de facto President of the Faculty Senate for over a year and a half, filling in for President Steven Grant during his unfortunate illness;

Whereas, as an Officer of the Faculty Senate, Professor Schuman has demonstrated consistent dedicated, well-judged, and thoughtful hard work in defense of faculty rights and interests;

Whereas, Professor Schuman's leadership skills helped to guide the campus through a particularly challenging time for both the Missouri S&T campus and the University of Missouri System,

Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the Missouri University of Science and Technology does hereby sincerely thank Professor Schuman for every job well done and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

Adopted this 14th day of September, 2017, at the meeting of the Faculty Senate of Missouri University of Science and Technology.

President Sedigh Sarvestani then presented Professor Schuman with an engraved plaque.

Max Tohline called for a round of applause in recognition of Dr. Schuman's service.

Professor Sedigh Sarvestani reported on recent Intercampus Faculty Council activities. IFC will focus on three areas this year: NTT Policy, streamlining of course sharing, and teaching evaluation practices. Changes to UM Research Board funding will be discussed at the October meeting. Our representatives for AY 2017-2018 are Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani, Michael Bruening, and Tom Schuman, who will also serve as chair of IFC this year.

In campus news, Campus Climate survey results were presented in a Town Hall meeting just prior to this meeting.

Strategic Planning is underway. A very early draft of the Strategic Plan has been shared. The draft is essentially a condensation of our existing Strategic Plan within the four Compacts proposed by President Choi. President Choi has asked all four campuses and IFC for approval of the Vision and Compacts that were distributed prior to this meeting. The next step for our campus is the formation of a strategic planning committee.

Other action items include a proposal for the creation of a Department of Teacher Education and Certification and review of the faculty bylaws.

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani then presented the proposed System-level Draft Vision for the Strategic Plan that was distributed prior to the meeting. It was explained that President Choi desires for each campus to adopt a similar vision.

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the Draft Vision.

During the ensuing discussion, Tom Schuman explained that the Draft Vision as well as the Compacts, was developed in a coordination with a subcommittee of IFC. He went on

to say that our current strategic plan will be re-aligned under new headings using the Compacts as the over-structure.

The motion passed.

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani went on to discuss the four Draft Compacts that make up the Strategic Plan.

A **motion** was made and seconded to approve the four Compacts.

Professor Mark Fitch asked for a definition of a compact. Chancellor Maples explained that it is an agreement between two or more parties. In this case, the expectation is that the agreement is between each campus and the System. It was noted that the document in question does not mention any requirements or commitments of the other party in the agreement. Provost Marley commented that a compact is usually an agreement between an entity and a state.

The motion was passed with 1 objection and 3 abstentions.

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani reported that a Strategic Planning Committee will be appointed, which will include two representatives from staff, faculty, students and administrators. She indicated she has been requested to serve on the committee and the Rules, Procedures and Agenda Committee has nominated Richard Dawes as the second faculty representative.

There being no further nominations, Richard Dawes was approved as the second representative to the Strategic Planning Committee.

Details of the report are available at the following link:

[President.Report.9.14.17](#)

B. Administrative Reports

i. Chancellor's Report

Interim Chancellor Chris Maples thanked those who attended the climate forum earlier in the day. He said that overall, much of what we find here mirrors national climates, trends and issues. Dr. Maples stated that education is the answer for many of the challenges of today, a willingness to collectively do what we can do to better our environment. He indicated that the climate survey will be posted online at <http://climatesurvey.mst.edu> by Monday. Andy Careaga clarified that the Executive Summary and slide presentation are already posted, but the full report will be available on Monday.

Chancellor Maples reported that our legislative priorities for our university for the 2017-2018 Legislative Session. Until we see how our strategic planning fits into the overall guideline within the System, we will have the main UM System priority, which is core funding. He said he intends to make sure our legislators

understand that you cannot continue to erode core funding and expect the continuation of increased better results. He further indicated that our campus priorities will be the graduate engineering programs in North Kansas City, our mechanical engineering degree partnership with Missouri State University in Springfield, and an expansion of Project Lead the Way. Our capitol priority is the S&T Biosciences complex, which includes the Phase III portion of the Schrenk Hall project along with what we have accomplished on our own prior to that.

Cuba Plain joins us as S&T's Interim Vice Chancellor for Finance and Operations on Monday, September 18. Chancellor Maples reminded the body that President Mun Choi has called for a reduction in non-personnel expenditures (travel, leases, utilities, etc.). He said we are fortunate in that our enrollment is roughly the same as last year, while many universities have experienced a decline.

Dr. Maples apologized for an omission on his part in distributing a memo notifying employees that there will be no merit raises this year. He said that with the focus on budget reductions, it fell of his radar, but that a memo would be sent out soon.

Chancellor Maples then gave an update on restructuring. Neil Outar has been named Interim Chief Diversity Officer. Student Diversity, Outreach and Women's Programs now reports to Neil instead of to Enrollment Management and has been renamed Student Diversity Initiatives, and Anitra Rivera is Director. Dr. Maples presented an updated organizational chart reflecting the most recent changes. Cady Holmes-Muskovin is the Interim Director of Equity and Title IX, which also reports to Neil's division.

During the question and answer period, Dr. Maples was asked about the Freshman Engineering Program. He explained that currently students are languishing in Freshman Engineering, meaning they have been there more than two years without being accepted into an engineering degree program. He said he is a big believer in words. He would prefer to see that introductory phase called Foundational Experiences or something other than Freshman Engineering because the students are not actually enrolled in an engineering program. He said if it's called Foundational Experiences, there's less of a stigma in moving into a non-engineering degree program than one might feel otherwise. He said this is something to think about and discuss at the department level.

Robert Landers commented that the legislative priorities that were mentioned seemed to be mostly undergraduate education and service. He asked where research comes in since President Choi has charged us with increasing research expenditures to \$55M. Dr. Maples responded by mentioning that Choi's charge included increasing research facilities, which are part of the capitol priority listed previously (Schrenk Hall, Bertelsmeyer, etc.). The Biosciences complex will also increase teaching.

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani mentioned that in her experience, legislative priorities have been announced to faculty, but faculty have not been given the opportunity to voice an opinion on what those priorities should be. She asked how faculty are to participate in the determination of legislative priorities. Chancellor Maples replied that going forward, the process of determining legislative priorities will appear on a calendar and faculty will be given the opportunity in the spring to participate.

Professor Mark Fitch stated that he had heard a rumor that two administrators got a \$100K raise total this year. He asked if that is true. Dr. Maples responded by saying “Not to my knowledge.”

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani reminded the Senators to refer issues for investigation to Faculty Senate Officers. Chancellor Maples added that he meets regularly with the Senate Officers.

Details of the report are available at the following link:

[Chancellor.Report.9.14.17](#)

ii. Provost’s Report

Provost Marley began his report by referring back to the discussion about legislative priorities. He provided some background on how the legislative agenda came to be during the tenure of the previous chancellor. Taking the Missouri State program as an example, within that budget is room for research active faculty to be hired. He said it was an objective from the beginning to utilize an opportunity to accomplish something that was important for Southwest Missouri, Missouri State specifically, and important for us and to make it a win-win for both.

Professor Ulrich Jentschura urged the Provost to consider that post doc appointments can make a tremendous difference in our research productivity. Provost Marley agreed, adding that post docs care an important part of a vibrant research university. Chancellor Maples commented that post docs also need to be allowed to be PI on their own grant proposals.

Dr. Marley then highlighted the new faculty that were announced at the General Faculty meeting in the previous week. He introduced Richard Wlezien, Vice Provost and Dean of the College of Engineering and Computing and also George Markowsky, chair of the Computer Science Department.

He pointed out that we now have 309 tenured/tenure-track faculty, 59 non-tenure track faculty, and 46 other instructional faculty bringing the total to 414. He went on to say that sixteen new faculty lines were added, but we had a record number of retirements.

On Strategic Planning, Dr. Marley stated that during the forum, the definition of compact in this context means a contract with a State and the citizenry saying this is what this institution as a whole represents as a great asset to the state with the expectation that the State will fund the priorities of the university. Beyond the definition, the four areas of the Compacts represents the merger of the current Strategic Plan, Rising to the Challenge, within these four areas. Dr. Marley explained that the yellow highlighted areas on the slide are ideas that came from planning retreats and other functions to date. A Strategic Planning Committee will be formed by the end of this month. The planning committee will consolidate ideas from various constituents into a draft plan for our campus.

Provost Marley announced that Wayne Huebner has been named co-chair of the Center for Advancing Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ). The Steering Committee, chaired by Melanie Mormile, has planned for a staged progression of leadership to lead the effort. The chart showing major accomplishments, immediate plans, issues and concerns and upcoming events will be posted at a future date.

Dr. Marley referred to a late-summer announcement regarding the search for a Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies. The position will merge of Office of Sponsored Programs with the Office of Graduate Studies for a net reduction of one position. Nominations are being accepted for a search committee to be chaired by the two deans.

Dr. Marley mentioned that the Center for Environment and Sustainability has been dissolved and the various pieces allocated out to more logical places. Sustainability has been moved to the Center for Energy and Environment, the L-TAP program has been moved to Civil Engineering, and Steve Tupper will take a new role as the military liaison.

Details of the report are available at the following link:

[Provost.Report.9.14.17](#)

C. Staff Council Report

Sylvia Dees presented a report from Staff Council announcing that she was elected Staff Council Chair and John Cook was elected Vice Chair. Sylvia indicated that Staff Council will work closely with Chancellor Maples to improve staff morale on campus. An Advocacy Committee, which was implemented last year, provides an avenue for staff to voice their concerns. Fall Staff Appreciation Day will be held from 8 – 11:30 A.M. at the Puck on October 31, with cookies, hot apple cider and fun activities for staff.

D. Student Council

Scottie Thomas presented an update from the Student Council. Scottie reported that the search for the next Student Curator has been started, the two-year term for S&T begins

January 18; applications will be accepted through September 29. Interviews will be conducted and names will be forwarded to the governor in early November. The Design Phase of the Student Fitness Center has been launched and drawings should be available soon.

Details of the report are available at the following link:
[STUCO.9.14.17](#)

The CGS representative had stepped out of the meeting, so the CGS report was skipped over. Following the Curricula Committee report, the CGS representative returned. A **motion** was made and seconded to change the order of the Agenda to allow the CGS Report. *The motion passed.*

E. Council of Graduate Students

Palash Bhowmik, Vice President of the Council of Graduate Students, presented a report from the Council of Graduate Students (CGS). Palash stated that currently there are only three members on the Executive Committee, but they will fill the other positions in the near future. Palash discussed the role of CGS on campus and then talked about some of the initiatives for this year, which include updating the CGS webpage, identifying office space, implementing a grievance system, CGS Student Orientation, and Certification for GTAs and GRAs. He mentioned that one area of focus for CGS is providing more family programs for married graduate students. CGS will also be advocating for more affordable housing and day care.

Details of the report are available at the following link:
[CGS.9.14.17](#)

IV. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

A. Curricula Committee

Professor Schuman presented the Curricula Committee report stating that the Curricula Committee met on August 15 to review three degree change requests, twenty course change requests and eight experimental course requests.

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

The motion passed.

Details of the report are available at the following link:
[CCC.Report.9.14.17](#)
[FS.Slides.9.14.17](#)

**B. Information Technology and Computing Committee
- No Report.**

C. Rules, Procedures and Agenda

Tom Schuman stated that RP&A had three items to cover. Richard Hall was elected to the Administrative Review Committee in the spring, but declined to serve. Bih-Ru Lea, Business and Information Technology, has been nominated.

Motion: RP&A moves to elect Bih-Ru Lea to the Administrative Review Committee.

The motion passed.

Motion: Lili Eng is nominated by the Business and Information Technology Department to serve on the Parking, Security and Traffic Committee.

The motion passed.

Title IX panelists were originally appointed to 3 year terms for the purpose of continuity, however in the recent Diversity and Inclusion Audit, the longer terms were dropped in lieu of annual rotating terms. RP&A presented a list of twenty candidates who had indicated their willingness to serve from which the Chancellor will select ten members.

Motion: RP&A moves for approval of the list as presented.

The motion passed.

D. Public Occasions

Dr. Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani presented a couple of changes to the Academic Calendar for 2017-2018.

Motion: The Public Occasions Committee moves for Faculty Senate to approve moving the end date of open registration from Sunday, January 14, to Monday, January 15 as proposed by the Registrar and approved by the Public Occasions Committee.

The motion passed.

Motion: The Public Occasions Committee moves for Faculty Senate to approve moving the final open house date to April 6, 2018 as proposed by the Office of Admissions and approved by the Public Occasions Committee.

The motion passed.

For informational purposes, it was mentioned that the charge to the Commencement

Committee has been redefined, clarifying it as a subcommittee under Public Occasions. Two Public Occasions Committee members will serve on the Commencement Subcommittee.

Charge to Commencement Subcommittee

The Commencement Subcommittee is charged with planning and overseeing the implementation of plans for Commencement ceremonies and other events related to Commencement. This subcommittee is appointed with power, given that its activities require assistance from individuals outside the Public Occasions Committee. The subcommittee will report to the Public Occasions Committee, and not directly to Faculty Senate. An annual report of activities of the Commencement Subcommittee will be included in the annual report submitted by the Public Occasions Committee. Two members of the Public Occasions Committee are to serve on this subcommittee. As is the norm for events within the jurisdiction of the Public Occasions Committee, changes deemed significant (as determined by the two Committee members serving on the Subcommittee) to the form or function of the Commencement ceremonies are subject to approval by Faculty Senate.

Presented to the Faculty Senate on Sept. 14, 2017

Details of the report are available at the following link:
[PublicOccasions.9.14.17](#)

V. Old Business - NONE

VI. New Business and Announcements

Professor Schuman stated that RP&A was presented with a request from the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business to endorse a proposal for creation of a Department of Teacher Education and Certification. The CRRs do not currently describe who has authority over the creation or deletion of academic departments.

Motion: RP&A moves

“Whereas the Faculty Senate has authority granted to it by the General Faculty and the CR&Rs over academic program policies,

Be it resolved and understood that:

Faculty Senate is the campus authority responsible for endorsing or rejecting the creation, realignment, or dissolution of academic departments until such time as the General Faculty removes this authority.”

The motion passed.

Dr. Sedigh Sarvestani then presented the Proposal for the Establishment of the Department of Teacher Education and Certification as distributed prior to the meeting. She explained that this program already exists and has been operating under the Department of History and Political Science. Approval of this proposal will allow a search for a department chair.

Professor Acar called for quorum.

VII. Adjourn

There no longer being no quorum, the meeting was adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Corns, Secretary