

**MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
February 2, 2010
Approved Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Catchings, Kudikyala, Wang, Lyons, Purewal, Wright, Newsome, Felton, Varn, Minks, Hall, Young, Baymon, Hutchins, Terfa and Durham-Lacy

Members Absent:

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM.

II. Additions/ Adoption of Agenda

Motion (#2010-1) to accept the agenda was moved by Dr. Hall and seconded by Dr. Wright was passed. Motion (#2010-2) to accept the minutes from January was moved by Mr. Minks and seconded by Dr. Varn with some corrections regarding the members present was passed.

III. Committee Reports

Dr. Abigail Newsome volunteered to be the chair of Faculty Concerns/Curriculum Committee. A concern about faculty development that was being resolved with policy changes by the administration.

IV. Old Business

Constitution ByLaws: Dr Felton volunteered to spearhead the revision of the Constitution/ByLaws for the Faculty Senate.

Faculty Handbook: The current Student Handbook does not have any grade appeal policy. An addendum needs to be published to address that issue. That is yet to be published.

Dr. Wright and Dr. Young volunteered to work on Faculty Handbook revisions. Dr. Catchings advised to look at the best practices and handbooks of universities that passed SACS as a source of guidance.

Dr. Newsome will work on eligibility list for candidates for University TP committee. The University TP committee will be elected this year. The 2006 Faculty Handbook does not specify how the Dept. TP committees are formed.

Funding Issues – REIC Recommendations: Dr. Terfa agreed to let his report be distributed outside the FS. Dr. Terfa regretted the fact that Senators do not want to be identified by name in the Minutes for their remarks or suggestions for fear of reprisals. He stated the fact that Faculty Senate should be at the fore front to defend Academic Freedom and therefore we should not shrink from that responsibility. We do not represent ourselves. We represent Departments and the Faculty at large and hence we have that obligation to them.

University Committees: Dr. Catchings passed a sign-up sheet for all university committees. Faculty Senators signed up on committees that they preferred. This was done to assure FS representation on all university committees.

MSCIE Rally: Dr. Catchings thanked the senators who participated in the last rally against the merger of HBCUs held in Jackson, MS.

Meetings with Dr. Oliver: Student affairs issues regarding grade appeal was discussed. Printing an addendum to the current Student handbook was proposed a potential solution. The issue about inadequate FS representation in university committees was discussed.

Dr. Stevenson meeting: Tenure Promotion, University committees, faculty overload pay, retention program, election of university TP committee were some of the issues that were discussed. On second Tuesdays FS will co-share the meeting with Dr. Stevenson so that there would be no need to call a separate full-faculty meeting. FS will officially call these meetings.

They discussed about poor planning and poor quality of speakers during the Faculty/Staff Institute during this semester.

Dr. Catching and Dr. Newsome mentioned that they will meet with Dr. Oliver on the last Thursday or Friday of every month. Student registration issues were also discussed.

V. New Business

Retention program is schedule to roll out in Fall 2010.

Academic Change Process: Any academic policy change will be discussed with the FS before they are finalized and implemented.

Dr. Young brought a new issue to FS. This issue was promptly assigned to Dr. Newsome who is the chair of Faculty Concerns committee.

A motion (#2010-3) to approve the curriculum change process was moved by Dr. Minks and seconded by Dr. Hall was passed.

VI. Close

Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM

Submitted by:

Udai Kudikyala
Udai Kudikyala
Secretary

Gwendolyn Catchings
Gwendolyn Catchings
President