

Mississippi Valley State University  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
April 8, 2008  
Approved by the Faculty Senate

Members Present: These are the members who were present at the April 8th meeting:  
Paul Schreiber, Gwen Catchings, Bertha Ealey, Udai Kudikyala, Orian Cathey, Elizabeth Evans, Jerome Greene, Mohammed Hoque, Emmanuel Ngwang, Peter Nwankwo, Vikki Spann, Dorothy Vaughn, Stacey White, Mantra Henderson

The meeting was called to order by the President. The minutes from the previous week's meeting were delayed and would be incorporated into today's meeting. The president resumed the agenda from the regularly scheduled Senate meeting which was dedicated to preparation for the upcoming IHL Board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

The QEP committee made its report which included a written statement read by Dr. Felton.

The Assessment Committee resubmitted the assessment policy statement from SACS. A motion was made and seconded that the statement be sent to committee for review

Dr. Schreiber reported on the outcome of IHL Board meeting: IHL salaries on average are about \$8600 below other southern states on average; the Board is also proposing changes to bylaws, changes in sabbatical leave policy, and clarification of tenure and promotion policies--generally promotion and tenure go hand-in-hand with a minimum standard of ten years. Dr. Schreiber read a proposed letter that he wants to send to faculty recommending that contact their state legislators relative to salary equity. The Senate concurred. A motion to that effect was made and seconded. It will be sent out to all faculty members and representatives should follow up with own departments.

FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Relative to Valley's presidential search an Ad hoc committee is trying to work out exact language for Criteria for a president in the next two weeks.  
Constitutional/Bylaw discussed amendment procedures. Ultimately all recommended amendments will go to the entire faculty. Four amendments were proposed. The committee discussed changes in membership, time of election, and changes in length of terms and rotation where only half of the senate is new in any given year. The final report will be expected at the next meeting, allowing all committee members to contribute. A member of the FS Executive staff addressed execution of changes-wants recommendations sent directly to the President. There is a time issue. The proposed plan has to be sent to full faculty, administration and then to IHL. Also noted that if we can't get it through by the end of the semester, it won't be implemented until an October timeframe. A motion was made and seconded

Dr. Schreiber read a written report reporting on a faculty concern about Thompson Hospitality: The organization currently has no manager and nothing can be done until a new manager is in place.

Dr. Schreiber stated that he made modifications to the letter submitted by committee on the housing issue. These modifications were made with the blessing of the chair of that committee.

#### Faculty Concerns

Online course committee – letter to Osborne; committee will meet on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Faculty pay –

Social Security numbers and privacy—awaiting response from Administration.

Sent letter to VPAA regarding campus housing, Academic Affairs will forward to the correct office.

Presidential search – meeting 3 o'clock with president,

Budget for faculty senate – Dr. Schreiber has decided to purchase supplies for next year and have a luncheon similar to what has been done in the past.

Dr. Schreiber restated that he will not be on faculty senate next year.

#### NEW BUSINESS - FACULTY CONCERNS

New letter – adjunct pay. Issue has been brought up with president and commissioner; current pay is unacceptably low. A raise is proposed in faculty handbook; matter was referred to the Faculty Senate President to notify the concerned faculty member.

New Letter - A new student was added to an on-line course during mid-term week. The concern was referred to Dr. Ngwang who is serving on the newly form online course policy committee by Academic Affairs.

Faculty evaluation – Paul read draft letter on faculty evaluations that is a follow up this issue that was discussed during a meeting with the President.; A motions was made and seconded that we send the letter.

Tenure/Promotion – The Faculty Senate will request AAVP to implement the schedule in the present handbook stating that faculty members who must apply for tenure will be informed of this in the spring semester of the year before you must apply; Appendix F. A motion was made and seconded to send memo to the VPAA.

The review of Faculty Senate Committees was tabled until next meeting.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Summary report from IHL meeting will be sent to full faculty.

Minutes should be signed before distributing to faculty members, this was an error by Dr. Schreiber.

The Faculty Senate Executive Staff is asking that if you know of issues that have been resolved, send an email to Faculty Senate President

A senate member asked to know about the final decision process for promotion and tenure and asked that the list be made public of those receiving tenure and promotion. Dr. Schreiber stated that his point would have been appropriate for faculty handbook. It may be appropriate to conduct annually reviews of faculty handbook and bylaws. This should be added to the agenda but tabled until the Fall. A senate member stated that this is not a policy issue but transparency and can come out of a discussion with administration. Another senator agreed and added that it should be put in newspaper. Another senator stated "what about those who did not receive tenure and promotion". It was agreed that this was an Academic Affairs issue. It was agreed that Dr. Schreiber would draft a letter to request notification of those who have received tenure and or promotion in order to recognize those individuals who have achieved this milestone. Dr. Schreiber asked that we move May's Faculty Senate meeting to April 29<sup>th</sup> because our regular meeting falls during final exam week. A motion made and seconded.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Vaughn announced that the Afro-Mexican exhibit is still on display. A reception will be held on second day of International week.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted;

*Bertha Ealey*

Bertha Ealey, Secretary

*Paul Schreiber*

Paul Schreiber, President