



Faculty Senate Meeting

Date: September 5, 2023

Time: 11:00a.m.

Venue: Virtual (Zoom)

Members present: Dr. Chetara Epps, Dr. Candace Carter-Stevens, Dr. Shelly Garlotte, Dr. Zainul Abedin, Dr. Julius Ikenga, Mrs. Jocelyn Haley, Mr. Daniel Splaingard, and Dr. Mary Shephard

The following items were discussed and voted on:

- I.** Dr. Epps called the meeting to order at 11:17am.
- II.** Faculty Handbook Update- Dr. Epps will resend the Faculty Handbook Microsoft Word Doc link to Senators today so that they can share the link with faculty in their department. All faculty members must have submitted suggestions to the Senators before the full faculty meeting that will be facilitated in September 2023 or October 2023. Faculty members should have received the link in Fall 2022 & Spring 2023 prior to today as well.
- III.** Full Faculty Meeting- Dr. Epps and Senators discussed facilitating a full faculty meeting in September 2023 or October 2023 in the Social Science or Business Education Auditorium. The three dates will be emailed to Mrs. Davis (Dr. Briggs) and Dr. Golden for availability. The three dates are September 28, 2023 at 11am, October 5, 2023 at 11am, and October 12, 2023 at 11am. Once Dr. Epps receives the responses from the two mentioned above then we will proceed.
- IV.** Vacancies- Dr. Epps shared that there are two vacancies that will need to be filled (secretary & assistant secretary). We have voted to elect Dr. Shelly Garlotte as the secretary and Dr. Mary Shepherd as the assistant secretary. Dr. Epps requested a motion to approve the selected Senators for those mentioned positions. Members agreed and motioned. This is Dr. Epps's last semester serving as the Faculty Senate President; therefore, her position will be vacant. Dr. Ikenga suggested and some of the other Senators agreed for Dr. Epps to reconsider staying as the Faculty Senate president for another year. Dr. Epps no longer wants the position but will reconsider and update the Senators at the next meeting. All the Senate positions should be fulfilled by January 2024. At the moment, Senators are not interested in the president position; however, Mr. Daniel Splaingard will consider the position once he reads the responsibilities.

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- V.** Dr. Carter-Stevens presented the Senators with a concern from a faculty. Due to the increase in COVID, the faculty member would like to know if the 2023 Fall Convocation can be relocated to the Harrison Complex. Dr. Epps will update the Senators when she receives a response to the concern. In addition to that concern, Dr. Ikenga wanted to know the faculty count on campus. Dr. Epps will update the Senators when she receives a response.
- VI.** Suggestions- Dr. Carter-Stevens suggested sending an email via MVSU News asking all faculty members to read the faculty handbook and write down any suggestions because the Senators plan to adopt the handbook at the full faculty meeting. Also, Dr. Shepherd suggested that it would be nice to develop a survey or exit interview for faculty to complete regarding faculty retention so that the Senators will be able to identify some of the issues and see if those issues can be improved and/or resolved.
- VII.** Meeting adjourned at 12:16pm