

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
November 4, 2008
Approved Minutes

Members Present: Catchings, Kudikyala, Misoc, Arnold, Baymon, Amadi, Ikenga, Matthews, Greene, Persaud, Ngwang, Showi, Evans, Stewart, Hoque, Muriuki and Ealey
Members Absent: Brownlow, Wilkinson

I. Call to Order/Welcome New Members.

Meeting called to order at 11:00 AM

Dr. Catchings welcomed a new member, Barbara Baymon from Mass Communication department.

II. Review and adopt meeting minutes from October 7, 2008

Some of the senators recommended that names should not be included in the meeting minutes. Dr. Catchings agreed to sanitize the meeting minutes before publishing them on the faculty senate web site. Senate member agreed that the meeting minutes must indicate the names of the senators who moved and seconded the motions. The motion to accept the meeting minutes with some corrections was moved by Dr. Persaud and seconded by Ms. Evans. The motion was approved by the faculty senate members.

III. Additions/Adoption of Agenda

The motion to adopt the agenda without any additions was moved by Dr. Greene and seconded by Dr. Persaud. The motion was approved by the senate.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Faculty Concerns: The committee presented their report on evaluation of the chairs. The chair of this committee recommended that a statement will be crafted that could be included in the faculty handbook in the near future.
- B. Student concerns: The committee did not meet.
- C. Administrative support: The committee met briefly to discuss some issues. The committee expressed concerns about not receiving any feedback from the administration on parking issues from last year. The committee expressed concern about the university web site. The web site is incomplete when in fact, it should have been used as a tool to advertise, recruit and retain both students and faculty. The committee's report in the file for reference.
- D. Handbook: The committee did not meet. The committee is concerned about making any decisions since the new President is yet to take charge.
- E. Constitution/Bylaws: The committee did not meet. The chairman of the committee did present a document that includes recommendations and amendments proposed by the committee to the original document. The chairman clarified to the senate members that a "term" means two academic years. The amendments and new by-laws have not been approved by the senate. It was proposed that the senate should meet in the month of April to elect officers. It was recommended that the meeting minutes should indicate excused and un-excused absences against senators who are not attending regular meetings.

- V. Old Business
- A. Election of Remaining Officer:
The motion to elect Barbara Baymon as Corresponding Secretary was moved by Dr. Showi and seconded by Dr. Misoc. The motion was approved by the faculty senate members.
- B. Assignment to University Committees
- C. Faculty Concerns: Letters to Dr. Osborne: The faculty senate decided to sent a letter to Dr. Osborne -expressing concern about hiring a Dean before the new President takes charge of the office.
- D. Tenure/Promotion: Dr. Osborne indicated that June 2006 hand book will be used for Tenure/Promotion. Dr. Catchings indicated that the IHL does not approve faculty handbooks. The faculty senate members reiterated that current handbook was never approved by the faculty senate. A motion to write a letter to Dr. Osborne to distribute the hand book to all faculty failed. A motion to write a letter indicating dissatisfaction of the faculty senate at the exclusion of faculty in drafting the handbook failed. A motion to write a letter to distribute the June 2006 hand book to only the faculty applying for tenure/promotion. The motion will also contain words expressing reluctance by faculty senate to use this handbook. It was moved by Dr. Hoque and seconded by Dr. Greene. The motion was passed with three opposed and one abstention.
- VI. New Business
- A. New Faculty Concerns:
- B. New President: Dr. Catchings suggested that a wish list of the issues to be discussed with the President must be submitted by the senate before December of 2008.
- C. MVSU National Alumni Association (NAA): Dr. Catchings mentioned that the President of the faculty senate automatically has a seat on the NAA board. The position will cost money to the faculty senate. A motion to write a letter stating that the faculty senate is not interested to be part of the NAA was moved by Dr. Persaud and seconded by Dr. Greene. The motion was approved by the faculty senate.
- VII.
- A. Monique Sneed gave information about a new dental insurance coverage plan.
- B. Dr. Catchings encourage senate members to look at Dr. Oliver's Handbook at her current university.
- C. Dr. Catchings mentioned that Dr. Kudikyala is now in-charge of maintaining the faculty senate web site. He has obtained the username and password to maintain the faculty senate web page from Ms. Staten.
- D. FS Activity: Dr. Catchings encouraged members to be more involved in activities on campus to improve relations with faculty.
- VIII. Welcoming Dr. Oliver: She will start working in January 2009. Dr. Catching suggested that the senate should consider making some arrangement to welcome the new President. Some senate members suggested the faculty senate should seek an appointment at an earliest convenient date with the new President.

IX. The motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Dr. Persaud and seconded by Ms. Evans. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Submitted by:

Udai Kudikyala
Udai Kudikyala
Secretary

Gwendolyn Catchings
Gwendolyn Catchings
President