

Minutes of MVSU Faculty Senate meeting
October 5, 2010
Approved

I. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am Faculty Senate (FS) President, Paul Schreiber.

Members attending: Ms. Jessica Barnes, Ms. Elizabeth Evans, Ms. Latonya Garner, Dr. Mack Felton, Dr. Kathryn Green, Dr. Louis J. Hall, Ms. Bessie W. Hutchins, Mr. Emmett McClary, Dr. Samuel McNair, Dr. Abigail Newsome, Dr. Cassie Osborne, Jr., Ms. Bobbie Peoples, Ms. Hattie M. Ray, Dr. Wayne Robinson, Dr. Paul Schreiber, Ms. Kanika C. Sharp, Ms. Dorothy Vaughn, Dr. Lidong Wang, and Ms. Violen Williams

II. A motion was made by W. Robinson, seconded M. Felton to approve, with typographical modifications, the minutes of the meeting of September 7. The motion carried. **Motion AY10/11-01**

III. Old Business

1. Provost Meeting Report

P. Schreiber gave a short version of the 2.5 hour meeting with FS Vice President Abigail Newsome and Acting Provost Samuel Shingles on September 22, 2010. The main issues discussed were as follows: Recruitment; Rumors; University Committee Assignments; Elections for T&P and other committees; and Provost Concerns.

Recruitment: a copy of the management plan, still under review, is to be given to the FS. Some of the problems we face, iterated by the Provost, are a delay in scholarship notifications and unattended FASFA errors. Of the eight public institutions in the state, MVSU and Alcorn have the least number of community college transfer students.

Rumors: the Provost stated that there is no truth to the rumor that the President is leaving, neither in December nor January; Commissioner Bounds' statement in the paper was taken out of context; and there is no list of personnel who are to be terminated. Those areas of concern for decreasing budget expenditures currently are adjuncts, credit hour generation, and faculty mixtures of undergraduate/graduate credits.

Committee Assignments: Dr. Reed handled the process of populating the University committees. The provost stated that the committees need to function as soon as possible.

Elections for Tenure & Promotion, Post-tenure review, Faculty-Appeals Committee and the Grievance Committee: there was discussion of when a full faculty meeting could be held. P. Schreiber indicated that the Faculty Senate might call a full faculty meeting soon for the purpose of electing these committee members.

Provost Concern: the provost stated that the administration is actively recruiting personnel for the Interim Chairs and Deans;

He expressed concern regarding the urgency of completing the Faculty Handbook, particularly due to its effect on T&P and post-tenure review. P. Schreiber indicated that the FS has asked Mr. Bland of Academic Computing Services for an electronic way to distribute material for internal viewing and commenting but has received no response to date;

The Academic Policy Council no longer exists. The body is now called the Provost's Council and the President of the FS is a member;

The faculty is strongly urged to submit their "No Show" grades in a more timely manner as this impacts the federal disbursement of funds.

The meeting with the Provost will be held every week, but a commitment was made to keep the meeting to 30 to 45 minutes.

P. Schreiber urged anyone who hears rumors about what transpires at these meetings with the administration to contact him as he has no intention of being secretive about the discussions.

P. Schreiber, A. Newsome met with the Associate Provost on September 30, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. In that meeting:

--FS officers urged that the recruitment report be provided to the FS before the October 5 meeting.

--FS officers asked for clarification on where the peopling of University Committee assignments now stands.

--FS officers suggested that the FS may call a general faculty meeting for the purpose of electing T&P and related committee members.

--A request was made for a complete and up-to-date list of all Faculty by rank and College

2. SACS Leadership Team Report

The new Mission and Vision statement has been approved by the President and the Executive Cabinet on August 30. The next step is approval by IHL. The FS President is a member of this committee. The 2009/10 FS did not respond to requests for input on these documents and so it went forward without it.

SACS Compliance Certification committee met on September 27. P. Schreiber has been a member of this committee. Dr. Shults will oversee this committee until a new director is hired. A Dr. Jones from South Carolina State will be at MVSU on October 11 and 12 to help with narratives for the compliance certification report.

A draft of a Strategic Planning Document was submitted. The faculty will receive the Document for approval once details are ironed out.

3. IHL Meeting

P. Schreiber indicated that FS officers did not attend the most recent IHL meeting because it was a 30 minute meeting with no agenda items of particular interest to the FS. He also indicated that the FS

President and Vice President had decided to alternate attendance at the IHL meetings due to time constraints in their schedules.

4. Faculty Senate Handbook

P. Schreiber stated that it is currently in slow motion because of his own schedule. Implementation is going to be the hardest thing about the new handbook, and that is what is needed to be discussed. He urged the FS to keep it a living document, available for amendment each year, as needed.

IV. New Business

1. Faculty Senate Protocol

P. Schreiber requested FS personnel to read the “Faculty Senate Protocol 2008-2009,” attached by reference here, for possible acceptance at next month’s FS meeting to accept without date as the Faculty Senate Protocol.

2. University Promotion and Tenure Committee

As there are only two colleges now—Arts & Sciences and Professional Studies/Education—the current faculty handbook regarding the committee is out of date. A draft of the new handbook, attached by reference here, was distributed. P. Schreiber suggested that the FS shouldn’t wait to elect the committee, but be proactive. He suggested that the FS call for a full faculty meeting to for the purpose of electing the members of these key committees (T&P, Post-Tenure Review, Faculty Appeals, and Grievance Committees)

A motion was made by E. McClary and seconded by W. Robinson to call a full faculty meeting for Tuesday, October 12 at 11:00 am for the purpose of electing the members of the listed faculty concerns committees with “Other business” at the end of the agenda. The Motion passed. **Motion AY10/11-02**

3. Letter from Mississippi Coalition on Black Higher Education

An August 26, 2010 letter asking for a representative from the Faculty Senate had been responded to P. Schreiber by email and in a phone call suggesting that Dr. Samuel McNair (currently a board member of the Coalition) could serve as the FS’s representative until the full FS could met on the matter. S. McNair stated that the Coalition’s purpose is to be sure that MVSU, JSU and Alcorn get fair and equitable attention of IHL. The Coalitions’ meetings are held in Jackson at 5pm on the 4th Monday of the month.

A motion was made by L. Hall and seconded by C. Osborne that S. McNair serve as the FS representative to the Mississippi Coalition on Black Higher Education. The Motion passed. **Motion AY10/11-03**

4. Faculty Senate Budget

P. Schreiber did not bring the budget figures to the meeting, but indicated it contained a little over \$2,000. Most of this would be used during the year for mileage. He requested FS agreement for the purpose of two cartons of paper so that his department’s supplies would not be used for FS business. E.

McClary moved and L. Hall seconded the motion to buy two cartons of copy paper. The motion passed.
Motion AY10/11-04.

5. Academic Calendar.

--**January Return date:** some discussion of the early return date for faculty.

--**Spring Semester Registration:** A written concern has been expressed by Dr. Lawrence Goldman regarding the late registration (November 12) for the start of registration for the spring 2011 semester.

A motion was made by L. Hall and seconded by W. Robinson to express by letter to the administration that the FS recommends a November 1, 2010 start date for spring semester 2011. The Motion passed.

Motion AY10/11-05

6. Faculty Concerns Committee Report

The Committee has not yet met. P. Schreiber indicated that curriculum issues will be coming for approval of the FS on a regular basis. As this might overburden the Faculty Concerns Committee, he suggested that the Student Concerns Committee do double duty as the FS Curriculum Committee. A motion was made by M. Felton and seconded by J. Barnes that the FS Student Concerns Committee also stand as the FS Curriculum Committee. The Motion passed. **Motion AY10/11-06**

7. Faculty Senate Committees Duties

P. Schreiber urged each committee to elect a chairperson.

8. Faculty concerns survey

P. Schreiber began discussion of the recent faculty concerns survey, attached by reference here. The list has been divided into two columns, with the first column referencing issues that are already under consideration by the FS.

Regarding the hiring process, K. Green brought up the difficulties her department had experienced in relation to receiving timely applications from Human Resources. She suggested that faculty position applications should be addressed to the departments, as was common practice in other universities. B. Hutchings stated that Chairpersons should not have the ability to remove applicants at that first stage of the process. K. Green stated that her department had requested that the applications go to the Chair of the respective Search Committees. M. Felton stated that he would work with K. Green on developing a draft of a FS letter and submit it to P. Schreiber for presentation to the FS at the next meeting.

P. Schreiber indicated that the Enrollment Management plan had actually started in Fall 2009. The FS should get access to it and inquire as to its actual implementation.

There was general discussion of the need for FS representation on the academic calendar committee.

There is currently a Sabbatical Leave policy, but no procedure has been established. In the new handbook there should be such a procedure.

Ms. Hattie Raye was introduced as the University College representative at the meeting, but she preferred not to comment on the freshman seminars.

General discussion of the first year experience seminar ensued with general confusion on its current set-up. The second semester of the freshman seminar does not seem to be consistent across campus. P. Schreiber indicated that he would request specific details on how the seminars are currently supposed to be functioning.

As the meeting had run over, there was a general discussion without resolution on the need for another meeting to consider the Faculty Senate survey. Members were urged to consider it.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by K. Green