Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 25 August 2015

Presiding: Dr. Elizabeth Evans, outgoing President of Faculty Senate

Senators attending: Dr. Joseph Wahome, Dr. Jiabo Liu, Dr. Deborah Ford, Dr. Therese Dumas, Dr. Moses Newsome, Mr. Ronald Minks, Dr. Stacy White, Prof. Theresa Rash, Dr. Candace Carter-Stevens, Ms. Kanika Collins-Sharp, Dr. Micah Rueber, Dr. Barbara Gosa, Dr. Mohammad R. Hoque, Ms. Dorothy Vaughn, Ms. Barbara JP Washington, Dr. Dan Trent

Not attending: Dr. Jimmie Warren, Ms. Marsha Belton

I. Call to order and welcome—Dr. Evans
   B. Introductions
      C. Election of new officers—those elected as follows:
         a. President-Dr. Joseph Wahome
         b. Vice-President- Dr. Jiabo Liu
         c. Secretary-Dr. Deborah Ford
         d. Assistant sec’y- Dr. Micah Rueber
         e. Corresponding sec’y- Dr. Carter-Stevens
         f. Parliamentarian- Mr. Ron Minks

II. Minutes from the May 5, 2015 were approved (Motion: Dr. Ford; seconded-Dr. Liu)

III. Old/Continuing Business:

   A. Faculty Handbook—the new document needs to be delivered and approved by Academic Affairs as soon as possible, so that it can become effective fall 2016.
   B. There are inefficiencies in the processing time in HR of new employment applications.
   C. Faculty needs clarification on the number of personal leave hours that are charged for absences of less than 8 hours.
   D. Each faculty senator was asked to poll his/her department members regarding office hour policy for the university.
E. MVSU research guidelines & rubric—passed at the end of the 2015 academic year. Dr. Liu is finalizing the document.

F. Summer research grants—for the second year in a row, faculty (whose proposals were approved for funding by the FS sub-committee) were not notified in a timely manner, and therefore were unable to conduct their research. The “system” is broken; we request that Dr. Wahome seek answers from Dr. Golden, namely her role in the process and that of the purchasing department.

IV. New Business

A. The tenure & promotion timeline distributed during the Faculty Institute did not coincide with the document finalized last year; some steps were missing. Request an update.

B. Post-tenure review—what is the process this year? Which “year” has been identified as the beginning cohort of faculty to be reviewed? What is the order going forward?

C. Proposed budget reductions—MVSU’s response to 7.8% reduction in state appropriation—the proposal that Dr. Bynum submitted to IHL was discussed

D. Overload pay—there are still questions about what formula is being used

E. Question about how the loss of Ayers’ funding will affect specific departments

F. Call for full faculty meetings more often

V. Matters Arising — none

VI. Announcements/Comments

B.B. King event on campus Thursday, Sep. 3rd in the Business Education bldg.

VII. Adjournment motion to adjourn at 12:10 by Dr. Ford and seconded by Dr. Liu.