



## OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

President - Elizabeth D. Evans, Ph.D.  
Vice President - Joseph Wahome, Ph.D.  
Secretary - Tina Rice, Mrs.

Assistant Secretary - Mudlagiri Goli, Ph.D.  
Correspondence Secretary - Jiabo Liu, Ph.D.  
Parliamentarian - Ronald Minks, Mr.

### Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2015, 11:00am

**Senators Attending:** Dr. Theresa Dumas, Dr. Elizabeth Evans, Dr. Deborah Ford, Dr. Mudlagiri Goli, Dr. Kathryn Green, Dr. Qiang He, Dr. Cynthia Honore` - Collins, Dr. Mohammad R. Hoque, Dr. Jiabo Liu, Mr. Ronald Minks, Mrs. Tina Rice, Dr. Dan Trent, Dr. Joseph Wahome, Ms. Barbara JP Washington, and Ms. Barbara Gosa.

- I. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m. by Senate President Dr. Elizabeth Evans.
  
- II. Review and adopt minutes (December 2, 2014): Dr. Goli called attention to the wording on page 2 paragraph 3 which read: Chairs are incompetent to comprehend the evaluation method that puts faculty at a disadvantage. It results in bad evaluations on files that hurts faculty when applying for T and P. A Chair can misuse such instruments if he/she is not on good terms with the faculty. Instead the wording was revised to state: Chairs may not always comprehend the evaluation method that puts faculty at a disadvantage. The instrument can be misused in the evaluation process. ??

The Senate adopted the December 2, 2014 minutes with minor modifications.

- III. Old Business
  - a. Faculty Handbook and FS Constitution and Bylaws – Committee report
    - (1) Dr. Evans stated that the Senate will keep this as a standing issue because it is on-going. Dr. Evans also stated that she wanted to see more faculty volunteers become members of the faculty handbook committee.
    - (2) Dr. Goli suggested presenting a copy of the faculty handbook to senate members.
    - (3) Mr. Minks mentioned that there are two handbooks being utilized, the 2006 and the 2013 editions. Dr. Evans stated that if two handbooks are being used, some of the items that are in 2006 need to be included in the new one.

- (4) Dr. Green made motion that FS President should be included in the next meeting with Dr. Bland, VPAA with FS input. Dr. Green suggests issues discussed should be brought back to Senate members.
  - (5) Dr. Ford – past tenure review – Dr. Ford stated that we need to be very careful about how guidelines are written in the handbook. Dr. Evans suggested that these issues should be included in the minutes so that it can be looked back on. Dr. Evans also stated that we need to set aside a time to meet with handbook committee. Dr. Green suggested January 15, 2014. It was decided that every Tuesday at 11:00 as meeting time with handbook committee, except for the first Tuesday, faculty senate meeting day.
- b. MVSU Research Guidelines and Rubric – Committee Report
    - (1) Dr. Liu passed Senate Members copy of the general guidelines from last year.
  - c. Faculty salaries and equity issues – Dr. Ford/Liu: Dr.’s Ford and Liu reported that work is on-going.
  - d. Model for office hours, overloads, etc. – Dr. Wahome:
    - (1) Dr. Wahome reported that faculty should have ten office hours. Faculty overload is 64. Sister institutions have different numbers for faculty office hours. As policy, Dr. Wahome stated, ten hours is what we have right now. Dr. Evans suggested that this issue is something that can be addressed at the faculty handbook committee meeting. Dr. Wahome suggested inviting Dr. Bland to these meetings.
    - (2) Dr. Evans stated that she and Dr. Wahome discussed issue about Dr. Nelson’s presence on campus. They decided not to ask the President about why he was here. The President has the right to chose advisors at his discretion.
    - (3) Dr. Green asked about the policy for faculty overloads. Dr. Ford also inquired about faculty overloads and what happened to the summer research monies. Dr. Evans responded by saying that she was not going to challenge the President’s authority.
    - (4) Dr. Ford suggested that Dr. Wahome attend meeting with Dr. Evans to ask these questions. Dr. Ford stated that Dr. Evans was not representing the Faculty Senate body as elected to do so. Dr. Evans again stated that she was not going to challenge the President’s authority and that the Senators can impeach her.
  - e. Faculty Evaluation – Dr. Persaud: Matter for the Handbook Committee.
  - f. Faculty Development Travel Requests:
    - (1) Correction 4b for last month’s meeting minutes. Dr. Ford stated that she did not “suggest” but “reminded” Senators that the application for USA travel be submitted no later than 30 days prior to travel and for overseas no later than 90 days.

- (2) Dr. Ford again asked Dr. Evans to get an accounting for last year's summer funds. Dr. Evans stated that she cannot do everything and that Senators also had duties and responsibilities as senate committee members and that Dr. Ford (or other members) can ask these questions.

#### IV. New Business

##### a. Cheating on student papers – Dr. Green:

- (1) Dr. Green invited Dr. Reuber to senate meeting to discuss academic dishonesty policy. Dr. Reuber stated that the University has several policies with slight differences. We need one written policy for all handbooks, faculty, student, etc. Dr. Evans suggested writing a letter about these concerns to the VPAA, and she, Dr. Evans will sign off on it. Dr. Evans went on to say that the students handbook has an appeal policy stated in their handbook.
- (2) Dr. Green stated that another issue is that students are giving their papers to other students to turn in as their own. There is nothing in the policy to check this. Dr. Evans stated that there are two places in the catalogs about plagiarism and cheating, one in the undergraduate catalog and the other in the graduate catalog. If we choose to take issue on this, we need to go through the correct process to fairly assess these issues. Dr. Collins said that these same issues are going on in the Social Work department.
- (3) The library offers research workshops and Turnitin is also available through the library.
- (4) Dr. Green moved that the Faculty Senate take on this issue with a letter to Dr. Bland to form a committee.
- (5) Mr. Minks was concerned about issue with reporting and not getting support of these issues of cheating from student affairs.
- (6) It was agreed that Dr. Reuber would write the letter and forward it to Dr. Evans.

#### V. Matters Arising

#### VI. Announcements/Comments

- a. Veterans Benefits Fair – January 29, 2015
- b. Spring Open House – January 31, 2015
- c. Green & White Day (State Capitol) – February 5, 2015
- d. Mississippi Missions, Dining Hall IV @ 6:45 a. m. Free Breakfast – February 5, 2015
- e. MLK/Black History Program – February 12, 2015

#### VII. Adjournment

Dr. Green motioned for adjournment @ 12:01 p.m.