Approved Minutes of MVSU Faculty Senate Meeting  
March 1, 2011, 11:00 a.m. Faculty Senate Office

I. The meeting was called to order at 11:06 a.m. by Faculty Senate (FS) President, Paul Schreiber.


II. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 1, 2011 with the amendments to be emailed to the Faculty Senate President, Dr. Schreiber. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

III. A motion was made to defer the discussions of items 2, 4, 5 and 7 of the March 2011 agenda until the next Faculty Senate meeting in April 2011. The motion was carried. The items were as follows: 2) SACS Leadership Team Report IHL Meeting, 4) Committee Reports, 5) Faculty Concerns (survey), and 7) Post Ayers Funding.

IV. Faculty Handbook

Dr. Schreiber reiterated that the Faculty Senate had decided to vote to adopt the Faculty Handbook at a previous meeting without the inclusion of a Faculty Evaluation instrument. The Faculty Evaluation instrument was to be revised and adopted at a later date but before the end of the Spring 2011 semester. However, this did not occur during the February 22nd general faculty meeting and has not occurred. A motion was made that the Faculty Senate write the administration, Dr. Hammond, regarding this and note that Section 4 (Human Resources section) needs to be updated with attention made to the conflicts with present policy. The motion was carried.

V. Policy on Faculty Qualifications

Dr. Hammond gave the Policy on Faculty Qualifications to Drs. Schreiber and Newsome. It is being distribute to the Faculty Senate today to share with other faculty members in their areas for discussions and review. Questions concerning this process/document arose. Three concerns expressed were (1) exceptions to the rules, (2) bottlenecking effect, (3) how it affects present faculty, (4) whether and how this affects teaching versus non-teaching faculty and (5) how does this affect the budget of individual departments.

NEW BUSINESS
I. Secretary for the April Meeting

Dr. Emmett McClary will serve as the secretary for the April 2011 meeting.

II. May Meeting Date

The Faculty Senate needs to have the May 2011 meeting earlier due to the usual date occurring during the final examination week. The Faculty Senate President will confer with the administration regarding alternative dates during April that do not conflict with a previously planned campus event such as activities during Founder’s Week.

III. Overload and Summer School Pay

This issue was addressed by an ad hoc committee which review policies at our sister institutions – Alcorn State University (ASU), Delta State University (DSU) and Mississippi University for Women (MUW). Based on the review, MVSU is not being paid equivalently with our sister institutions (See Handout). This needs to be reviewed by the administration in a budget neutral manner. Overload pay is not but neutral and summer school should (must) pay for itself. The committee will review again and calculate an average pay from of our sister institutions. It is being recommended that a flat rate of $3,000 per course regardless of terminal degree be adopted and to look at the cost of living. A motion was made to recommend to the administration that we adopt a summer school and overload pay rate that is the average of our 3 sister institutions (ASU, DSU, and MUW). The motion was carried.

IV. Program Coordinators

The 2006 Faculty Handbook does not have a policy regarding program coordinators. However, the draft of the present 2011 Faculty Handbook does include information regarding program coordinators. This is a concern for some who are program coordinator and the equal distribution of compensation. Because no draft handbook was available at the meeting, it was suggested that we review this section before the next faculty senate meeting for discussion. However, Dr. Schreiber did state that Dr. T. Lee had been asked to develop a policy regarding this which has been approved (according to Dr. Lee). Nevertheless, Dr. C. Shults shared with Dr. Schreiber that this policy (Dr. Lee’s submitted policy) is not policy. We will review this concern after looking at what is being proposed in the draft handbook. It was noted that we need to pay attention to the type of program coordinator that is being referred to – academic program coordinators.

V. Senate Calling a Full Faculty Meeting

It was discussed that the faculty need a full faculty meeting without administration present to discuss faculty issues without the fear of intimidation. As such a meeting was scheduled for March 8th at 11 am in the auditorium of the Science and Technology Center. Potential items for the agenda are (1) top down approach, (2) performance evaluations and (3)
program coordinators. Other items can be sent to the Faculty Senate President.

VI. Other

It was brought to the Faculty Senate’s attention that Dr. Hammond requested that a certain faculty apologize to Dr. Oliver regarding the statement that he/she made during the general faculty meeting referencing his/her position that the faculty need to have a meeting without administrators present. The Faculty Senate feels that the faculty can hold a meeting without administrators present as noted by the scheduled March 8th meeting. It was the consensus of the Senate that an apology was unnecessary.

VI. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and carried at 12:02 pm.