



Members Present: Chetara Epps, Teresa Banks, Candace Carter-Stevens, Julius Ikenga, Shelly Garllote, and Zainul Abedin

Members Absent: Daniel Splaingard Jocelyn Haley, and Latonya Evans

Guest Members: Dr. Jeryl Briggs, President of MVSU, Dr. Kathie Golden, Provost, and Dr. Abigail Newsome, Associate Provost

Venue: Sutton Building, Room 229

Time: 2:30pm

Date: February 22, 2023

- ✚ The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm with opening remarks by Dr. Epps. Then, Senators were given the floor to share concerns from their department with MVSU Executive Leaders.

Faculty Representative-Department of Education

- **Concern:** Administrative faculty would like to know why they are given three courses or more, especially in the Spring when reports are due to various program organizations?
 - **Executive Response 1:** Faculty are given one release of course when they are given additional assignments.
 - **Executive Response 2:** Stated that it would get look into not giving courses to administrative faculty in the Spring.
- **Concern:** O.P. Lowe has severe leaks that sometimes cause classes to not meet due to increased flooding in the building. Will our building be repaired after the SACS-COC when reserved funds are reviewed?
 - **Executive Response 1:** It was stated that the Education Building is on the list, but remember that a particular department chair has been out of his/her building for almost twenty years.

Faculty Representative -Department of Science

- **Concern:** The Science Department needs a lab tech. The department often has copier issues, and a lab tech could help the department.
 - **Executive Response 2** stated that a lab tech was hired but did not show up for work. The department chair stated that they did not know. All departments have graduate assistantship funds and that candidate service could provide assistance.
- **Concern:** Tutorial for points. The department chair stated that students do not come for tutorials and wanted to know what can be done. **This was also a concern with the Mathematics Department.** The mathematics senate representative wanted to know if any alternatives were available.
 - **Executive Response 2** stated that being creative and engaging students and that faculty should continue using the tutoring service.

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- ✚ Dr. Golden added that the one hour (taken from the ten office hours) of tutoring should be done outside the faculty office.

Faculty Representative- Mass Communications:

- **Concern:** The department of Mass Communication needs help with IT.
 - **Executive Response 1** shared that the university is short-staffed in that department, and also, the university needs a Webmaster.

Faculty Representative- Department of Mathematics

- **Concern:** Faculty zone parking should be marked, so students will not park in locations reserved for faculty.
 - **COO Response** stated that s/he spoke with Chief Redmond about signs for faculty. Dr. Carter-Stevens asked if Chief Redmond and Facilities (Tommy Brooks) would be present so that they would know where the zone should be for each building. The COO agreed.
- **Concern:** There are only two admissions recruiters; how do we become effective?
 - **COO Response** asked that the faculty focus on retention. First, we need to impact retention. Our retention rate is currently between 60-65%, where the average retention is around 70-75%.

Faculty Representative- Department of Music

- **Concern:** Leaving money on the table- Order process and turn-around time for items ordered.
 - **Executive Response 1** stated that Music paperwork needs to be done appropriately and submitted on time.
- **Concern:** Community Service- Is there a Director of Community Service?
 - **Executive Response 2** stated to contact Student Affairs.
- **Concern:** Advising our own majors
 - **Executive Response 2** stated that to be effective at teaching, you cannot reach out to those students. Let the staff assigned to complete that specific task advise those students. Academic Affairs wants to ease the load of co-advising. Students can still meet with faculty in the program, but advisement should continue under University College.
- **Concern:** Sabbaticals- The Music faculty wants to know if the university allows sabbaticals.
 - **Executive Response 1** stated that the university allows sabbaticals in the faculty handbook.



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✚ Dr. Ikenga asked if Academic Affairs could intervene with the University College to stick with the academic map and not deviate from it.

✚ **Dr. Briggs Statement:**

- Retention of students should be focused on building programs to support students.
- Spend all funds on scholarships.
- The university needs 2million dollars to restart the nursing program we do not have.
- International students use prosperity money going forward, which is a competitive challenge.
- What can we do to add to the current list of majors? Other opportunities can be discussed. We must maintain students even if we do offer a new program. We must also make sure the new program is successful at the same time.
- Dr. Briggs stated that he is available should the faculty senate need another meeting.

✚ **Dr. Golden Statement:**

- Some departments are leaving money on the table and not using it to purchase things that the department needs.
- Faculty tutoring is not asking for more than ten office hours. Tutoring by faculty allows for supplemental teaching; we are asking for one hour in a different place.

✚ The meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.

✚ **NOTE:** Dr. Epps will arrange for Chief Redmond and Mr. Tommy Brooks to attend next meeting.

OFFICE OF THE FACULTY SENATE

President: Dr. Chetara Epps | Vice President: Dr. Candace Carter-Stevens
Secretary: Dr. Teresa Banks | Corresponding Secretary: Ms. Jocelyn Haley | Parliamentarian: Ms. Latonzia Evans
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