

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
January 22, 2019
402 JCPenney**

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Senate Chair Alice Hall. Dr. Hall asked for approval of the Senate minutes from the meeting on Dec. 4, 2018. The minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Alice Hall):

Dr. Hall briefed the Senate on the following topics:

- Enrollment Management Firms. Dr. Hall reported that she recently attended meetings to provide feedback on the feasibility of UMSL using enrollment management firms to increase UMSL's enrollment. She explained that these firms are used by many universities and it was reported that there is often a good return on investment. She said that Chancellor George will provide more details in his report shortly, but the campus will be making a decision soon about the possibility of using one of two potential firms.
- Something new – “Senate Snapshot”. Dr. Hall explained that she has been asking for senators' input about the best way to communicate with faculty to share information. Dr. Hall stated that senators and other faculty said that it would be helpful to have more tools to assist them in informing other faculty members about what goes on in the Senate. Dr. Hall reported that with the approval of the Steering Committee, we are going to try something new beginning this month called the “Senate Snapshot”. This document will be e-mailed to the Faculty Senate and department chairs the Friday after the Senate meetings. Dr. Hall said that feedback is welcome as we try this new initiative.
- Committee Updates. Dr. Hall reported on some of the accomplishments that the Senate committees made during the Fall semester. Dr. Hall highlighted the work of the following committees:
 - Faculty Teaching & Service Awards Committee
 - Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Committee
 - Appointments, Tenure & Promotion Committee
 - Academic Advisory Committee
 - Assessment of Educational Outcomes Committee
 - Fall and Spring Research Panels
- Homecoming Chili Cook-Off. Dr. Hall reminded the attendees that the Senate is a co-sponsor of the Homecoming Chili Cook-off. She asked the senators to sign up for a 30-minute shift to serve chili at the event on Feb. 21. She encouraged them to attend the event. Tickets are available for \$5 and proceeds go to the Pagedale Family Support Center.
- Award Nominations. Dr. Hall reported that the nominations for the Chancellor's awards are due on March 1, 2019. She encouraged the senators to nominate their colleagues.

- UMSL Research Award. Dr. Hall stated that the deadline for the UMSL Research Award is February 18 – details are available on UMSL’s ORA Website. She reminded the Senate that there will not be a UM System Research Board Award Competition this spring. The awards are going to be integrated into the President’s New Strategic Investment Program.
- Upcoming Senate Elections. Dr. Hall explained that this is the time of year for elections of departmental senators who have terms that are expiring. She displayed a list of the departments who will be having elections starting the end of January/early Feb.

Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Tom George):

Chancellor George reported on the following topics:

- HLC reaccreditation. Chancellor George and Provost Sobolik reported that they have received the official letter that UMSL has been reaccredited for 10 years. They are very pleased with the positive results and commended the entire campus community for their hard work and a job well done. The Senate applauded the good news.
- Enrollment. Chancellor George reported that Spring enrollment is down 2% in undergraduates, up 3% for graduate students, and up nearly 1% for professional students. The overall summary is that UMSL is down about 1% in enrollment. Chancellor George followed up on the Senate Chair’s earlier comments regarding enrollment management firms. He explained that hundreds of universities are now using these types of firms to increase enrollment. President Choi has encouraged all four campuses to consider using these types of firms as consultants. Chancellor George said that two enrollment management firms have come to campus and presented their range of services to increase enrollment. He provided more details about the types of services the enrollment management firms could deliver. The Senate thoroughly discussed the topic and Chancellor George addressed their questions. Chancellor George stated that he will be taking this topic to the Budget and Planning Committee for their consideration and recommendation.
- Governor’s State of the State Address. Chancellor George reported that the governor proposed no core increase for UM System. Governor Parson proposed \$20M for maintenance and repair for COPHE institutions. The amount of \$22M was proposed for a new scholarship program called Fast Track for adult students. (There would have to be a statute passed to authorize this new program.) The governor also recommended \$16.3M for MO Excels grants to expand employer-driven education for workforce development. The amount of \$1M was recommended for the UM Nuclear Medicine program. Chancellor George stated that these are just proposals and will still have to go through the legislative session which ends in May.
- Possible tuition increase. Chancellor George said there is a possibility of a tuition increase. Before proposing an increase, the topic will be discussed with students and the Budget and Planning Committee.

Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Committee (Dr. Nigam Rath):

Dr. Nigam explained that the paragraph below in the NTT faculty promotion guidelines was contradictory and unclear. To remove ambiguity, the committee proposed the following change to the NTT faculty promotion guidelines:

- Page 4 of the Unit Guidelines currently reads:
When unit promotion guidelines are changed, the faculty being evaluated for progress toward promotion must be given the option of being evaluated thenceforth under the new guidelines. The Candidate may choose to continue to be evaluated under the guidelines in effect at the time of initial appointment in the NTT position. In cases of promotion to teaching professor, the guidelines used will be those in effect at the time of application for promotion to teaching professor.

Proposed Change:

When unit promotion guidelines are changed, the faculty being evaluated for progress toward promotion will be given two options:

- 1) be evaluated under the new guidelines, or
- 2) continue to be evaluated under the guidelines in effect at the time of the candidate's last promotion or at the time of their initial appointment in the NTT position if the candidate has not been promoted since their initial appointment.

The Faculty Senate unanimously approved the proposed change above.

Report from the Faculty Athletics Representative (Dr. Matt Taylor):

Dr. Taylor reported on the academic success of the student athletes. He talked about the teams' work in the community and praised their dedication to community service. He highlighted the following statistics about student athletes from Fall 2018:

- 43 – Straight A's
- 3.32 – Freshmen GPA
- 75% – Student Athletes with a 3.0 GPA or higher
- 3.73 – Women's Tennis Team GPA
- 3.46 – Men's Tennis Team GPA
- 11 of 13 programs with 3.0+ Cumulative GPA

Dr. Taylor reminded the faculty of the absence policy and to be aware that student athletes have excused absences when they are travelling with their teams. He encouraged everyone to attend their games.

Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) Report (Dr. Alice Hall):

Dr. Hall reported that due to the snow storm on Jan. 11, the IFC met telephonically and talked briefly about the following topics:

- Department Chair Process Proposal. Dr. Hall thanked the Senate for feedback about the President's proposal regarding the national searches for department chairs. The comments were forwarded to the President and to IFC. President Choi told the IFC

members that he has drafted a version of the proposal and it is being reviewed by General Counsel. He will forward it to University leaders, including the IFC, for feedback, with the intent of presenting it to the Board of Curators in April. We hope to see that revised proposal soon and will keep you updated on the latest version.

- Updates on Mid-Career Faculty Task Force. The Task Force is still gathering data and in the process of writing a report.
- The eLearning Task Force is making progress. This is a system-wide initiative to reach 100% online learners in Missouri and surrounding states, with the goal of helping to educate those citizens and generate revenue. The Task Force has gathered a lot of data and surveys, as well as research from the consultants. Moving forward, in addition to the task force, there's a technical team with faculty representatives from each campus.
- State Budget. It was reported that UM System is not anticipating any withholdings this year.

Dr. Hall asked if there was any other business. Hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Gibb
Senate/Assembly Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate/University Assembly Office)