Minutes of the Meeting of the University of Missouri-St. Louis Faculty Senate March 17, 2015- 3 p.m. 202 JCPenney

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Senate Chair, Dr. Keith Stine. Dr. Stine asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on February 17, 2015. The minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Keith Stine):

➢ Dr. Stine announced that the winner of the Homecoming Chili Cook-off event was the College of Optometry and College of Nursing. He presented the Golden Ladle Award to Dean Larry Davis and Dean Susan Dean-Baar for their winning recipe and congratulated them on winning the competition for two consecutive years. Dr. Stine reported that the event raised $790 in proceeds for the Pagedale Family Support Center. He thanked all of the faculty who volunteered to serve chili at the event.

➢ Dr. Stine reported that Dr. Betsy Rodriguez, UM System VP of Human Resources, recently contacted him about some possible changes to retiree health benefits. Dr. Rodriguez would like to brief faculty and staff about the changes in the next couple of months. Dr. Stine stated that when he receives more information from her, the Senate may organize a briefing for faculty and staff sometime in April or May. He will keep the Senate updated.

Dr. Stine reminded the Senate of the following information:

➢ The deadline to nominate a colleague for one of the Chancellor’s awards is April 3.

➢ Preference polls for next year’s Senate/Assembly committees are due March 20.

➢ The Faculty Senate’s First Organizational Meeting for 2015-16 will be held on March 31 at 3:00. At this meeting, the Senate Chair, the Senate Secretary, and the members of the Committee on Committees will be elected. In addition, an orientation will be conducted for the newly elected senators.

➢ The Second Organizational Meeting for next year is scheduled for May 5, 2015 at 3:00. This meeting is held to elect the members for all the Senate/Assembly committees. Dr. Stine encouraged attendance at both meetings. He also reminded the Senate that April 21 is the last Senate/Assembly meeting for this academic year.

➢ The Trailblazer Ceremony will be held on March 19 at 2:00 in MSC Century Room.

➢ UMSL’s Relay for Life Event to benefit the American Cancer Society is April 17 from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. in the Mark Twain Bldg.

➢ Dr. Stine announced that the Senate elections have been completed and displayed a list of the election results.
**Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Thomas George):**

Chancellor George reported that it is expected that UMSL could receive approximately $750,000 in state funding for FY 2016, but it has not been finalized yet.

UM System President Tim Wolfe has requested that each of the four campuses submit their strategic funding requests. UMSL has submitted the following requests:

- Operating costs for the Science Learning Building $1,000,000
- Nursing and Business lines & funding for on-line courses $1,000,000
- International & domestic recruiter, retention specialist, support for Veterans Center, and CRM for graduate students $700,000

Chancellor George will update the Senate on the results of the strategic planning requests.

**Appointments, Tenure, & Promotion (ATP) Committee Report (Dr. Patty Parker):**

At the December Senate meeting, the Senate reviewed some proposed changes to the UMSL ATP Guidelines. The Senate voted to return the following proposed change to the ATP Committee for further consideration and revision.

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<th>CURRENT</th>
<th>PROPOSED</th>
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<td>[p. 8 under III.A.2] A comprehensive performance review of all tenure-track faculty shall be conducted at the midpoint of their probationary period at UM-St. Louis. The Unit Committee, consisting of all qualified faculty members (i.e., those 11 holding tenure and, in cases involving promotion, rank higher than the individual under review), shall conduct this review. Faculty under review shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Unit Committee and to submit material that she or he believes should be reviewed by the Committee.</td>
<td>A comprehensive performance review of all tenure-track faculty shall be conducted at the midpoint in the third year of their probationary period at UM-St. Louis. The Unit Committee, consisting of all qualified faculty members (i.e., those holding tenure and, in cases involving promotion, a rank higher than the individual under review), shall conduct this review. The Unit Committee may solicit outside reviews as appropriate. Faculty under review shall be given the opportunity to appear before the Unit Committee and to submit material that she or he believes should be reviewed by the Committee.</td>
<td>Simpler wording achieves the same meaning. Legitimates the possibility of sending out the dossier for outside review at the third-year point if departments so desire.</td>
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Dr. Parker, ATP Committee Chair, reported that the ATP Committee discussed this proposed change on December 18 and decided to withdraw the proposed changes to this section of the P&T Guidelines. The first and second proposed changes were viewed as unnecessary (first) and unhelpful (second). The third proposed change was viewed as unnecessary because units for which this is important are already doing it, and because it may be viewed as a recommendation in units not already doing it.

The Faculty Senate did not have any objections to the ATP Committee’s recommendation to withdraw the proposed change (above).
Dr. Parker also provided the following report from the ATP Committee:

- The committee met on December 18, 2014 to consider the dossiers of two candidates for a Curators’ Professorship. Positive recommendations were subsequently made to Chancellor George.

- The committee met on January 23, 2015 to consider 10 cases for tenure and promotion. The cases reviewed were as follows:
  
  6 – Promotion to Professor, of which 5 received a positive recommendation.
  
  4 – Tenure and promotion to Associate Professor, of which 4 received a positive recommendation.

Recommendations were subsequently forwarded to Chancellor George.

**Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) Report (Dr. Keith Stine):**

Dr. Stine updated the Senate on the following topics that have been discussed at IFC:

- **Title IX Update.** The IFC unanimously recommended that the subcommittee that worked to develop the policy continue to serve as a preliminary review panel for policy questions and concerns. The subcommittee will then report to the full IFC on a regular basis with recommendations. The subcommittee will contain one member from each campus and it will consist of Drs. Grant, Miller, Stine and Ward-Smith for this academic year. The progress of the implementation of the new sexual discrimination policies was then discussed. Dr. Noble-Triplett reported on the challenges faced in identifying faculty members to serve on hearing panels from each campus, scheduling panel member training sessions, and administrative coordination between UM System and the campuses. Our campus is making good progress and we will have an update soon. A training session for panelists and others will be April 14-15 in Columbia. Discussion of the amendment proposed in the letter by the MU law school continued mainly at MU, and S&T, the letter is available on the Senate website.

- **Economic Development.** Dr. Foley briefly reported on efforts on economic development at MU. IFC members encouraged Dr. Foley to extend education efforts in this domain to different faculty groups at S&T, St. Louis and KC. He would be willing to give some of his presentations at other campuses.

- **MyVita.** The system to replace FAS is still under development. It is delayed due to complications getting it to do everything that everyone wants.

- **Faculty Workload Document.** IFC members discussed the document on faculty workload, prepared by the IFC in 2014 and circulated among the campuses. Dr. Graham and several IFC members reported that the document has been discussed and positive feedback has been received from administrators (e.g., chairs, deans and provosts) and some faculty members. Mechanisms for aiding professional development were discussed.
Legislative Update. Mr. Marty Oetting (Director of Government Relations for UM) reported, via telephone, on higher education funding bills currently under review in Jefferson City. He also reported on the status of bills which would require institutions to post course syllabi online for public review. Mr. Oetting commented that UM representatives, and those from other institutions, have been meeting with legislators on these bills. They have told legislators that posting creates a risk of course material being stolen and that they can review course programs through undergraduate and graduate catalogs already widely-available online. There was a house bill whose proposer backed down and there is presently a senate bill. The concerns were communicated to the proposer (Eric Schmidt of STL). It states that “Each public college and university shall post on its internet website information for each course offered at the college or university that includes the course's syllabus, reading list, attendance requirements, extra credit opportunities, and a description of required assignments and projects.” It is pending, UM is watching it.

Academic Calendar. Representatives from UMKC led a discussion on the academic calendar (CRR 20.140.A.1). Based on comments from their campus, they recommend a revision to read “The fall semester will begin the first Monday on or after August 18.” The rationale is that this change would allow more time between the end of the fall semester and Christmas holidays. IFC members proposed that the recommendation from UMKC be considered by campus academic administrators, although further discussion on this by the IFC was also recommended. Dr. Stine asked the senators for their input. The senators made the following comments:

- The timing of the calendar should reflect the amount of time the IT Department needs to make all of the technological updates. Adequate time is also needed to prepare the rooms in student housing. UMKC may not be affected because their summer terms are scheduled differently.

- This proposed change would only give one week of classes after Thanksgiving. That may not be enough classroom time before finals.

- If classes are held Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, many students will not be present.

A second potential change to the academic calendar was raised by MU representatives and briefly discussed: Classes could be held on the Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, and two days off added earlier in the semester to create a shorter fall break. Problems with this policy for MU and S&T, which primarily have more “residential” student bodies than KC and SL, were considered. Dr. Stine asked again for input from the Senate. The senators commented that students really need a longer break midway through the semester. Also, this proposed change could affect students who want to go home for the entire week of Thanksgiving break.
Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report (Mr. Michael Allison):

Mr. Allison presented the following program proposals:

- Change to the Credit for Military Educational Experiences Policy
- Change to the Biology Undergraduate Requirements
- Change to the B.S. in Computer Science
- Change to the Mathematics Undergraduate Requirements
- Change to the Minor in Veterans Studies
- Change to the B.S. in Accounting
- Change to the M.Ed. in Special Education
- Deletion of the Minor in Literacy
- Addition of the Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis
- Change to the Graduate Certificate in Autism Studies
- Change to the Minor in Art History
- Change to the Music Undergraduate Requirements
- Change to the B.A. in Music
- Change to the B.M. in Music Education
- Change to the B.M. in Music with an Emphasis in Performance
- Change to the B.M. in Music with Elective Studies in Business
- Change to the Ph.D. in Nursing
- Change to the B.S. in Civil Engineering
- Change to the Engineering Undergraduate Requirements

The Senate approved all of the above proposals.

Other Business:
Dr. Alice Hall, Chair of Committee on Committees, brought a nomination to the Senate to replace the CoFAC representative on the Research - Spring Panel. The Senate endorsed the nomination.

Executive Session:
The Senate met in Executive Session to consider a nomination to receive an honorary degree.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Keefer
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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