

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
University Assembly
November 8, 2016 - 3 p.m.
202 JCPenney**

The meeting of the University Assembly was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Senate Chair. Dr. Stuerke explained that she had received a request that the minutes from University Assembly meetings be presented for approval at the subsequent Assembly meetings, rather than combining the Assembly and Senate minutes and approving both at the immediately subsequent meeting. Since Assembly meetings are typically held every other month, this meant Assembly members did not vote on Assembly minutes, but did vote on the minutes of Senate meetings they did not attend. Therefore, moving forward, University Assembly minutes will be approved separately at University Assembly meetings and the Faculty Senate meeting minutes will be approved at Faculty Senate meetings. Dr. Stuerke asked for approval of the University Assembly portion of the Sept. 6, 2016 minutes. The minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Pamela Stuerke:

- Dr. Stuerke thanked everyone for their participation in the Faculty Senate Five-Year Review that was held on Oct. 20. She is awaiting the reports from the review team.
- Dr. Stuerke stated that she attended an event last week that was held in Jefferson City to announce Dr. Mun Choi as the new UM System President-Elect. He officially begins his new position on March 1, 2017.
- Dr. Stuerke explained that the Senate is working on the presentation for the Senate breakfast with the Board of Curators to be held on December 9. This year the theme of the breakfast is focusing on undergraduate research. She asked the faculty to let her know if they had undergraduate students who would be interested in presenting their research at the event.
- The bylaw changes that were approved by the Senate last year were just approved at the October Board of Curators meeting.
- The Board of Curators also approved the document proposed by UM System regarding unionization votes. UM System will send a follow-up letter this week to the faculty.
- Dr. Stuerke announced that a new policy on scheduling is being discussed. It will be reviewed by the Academic Advisory Committee and the Recruitment, Admissions, Retention, and Student Financial Aid Committee and will be discussed at an upcoming Senate meeting.
- The Senate will co-sponsor the Chili Cook-off event again this year as part of the Homecoming activities. The cook-off is scheduled for Feb. 15 and tickets will be just \$5. The college who submits the best chili recipe will win the “Golden Ladle”.
- Dr. Stuerke reminded the Assembly that the nominations for UM President’s Awards are due Dec. 12.

Report of the Chancellor, Dr. Chris Spilling:

- Interim Provost Chris Spilling announced that Chancellor George was unable to attend today's meeting and asked Dr. Spilling to give his report. Dr. Spilling reported that President-Elect Choi will be visiting each of the four UM System campuses. He plans to visit UMSL on Nov. 28-29, 2016.
- Dr. Spilling announced that the Board of Curators will be meeting on the UMSL campus on December 8 and 9. He explained that UMSL is hoping to include a proposal on the Curators' agenda which will extend the tuition Metro Rate to all of Illinois, rather than the current 22 counties. He reported that the Metro Rate proposal will be discussed at the Budget and Planning Committee meeting on Friday.

Report of the Staff Association, Ms. Mary Tackett:

Ms. Tackett reported that the executive officers of the staff association have been working with the Intercampus Staff Advisory Council (UM-ISAC) on suggestions for updating the collected rules and regulations. The executive officers also participated in the Faculty Senate's five-year review. Ms. Tackett announced that members of the staff council are planning to visit buildings throughout the campus to reach out to more individuals to inform them about the staff association. She announced that staff council elections are upcoming. Ms. Tackett asked the Assembly to let her or Nick Palisch know if they had any good suggestions for candidates to serve on staff council. Ms. Tackett explained that they are working on a new staff association survey that is expected to be distributed in the next couple of months. She reported that the staff council met on Oct. 27 and received an update from Ms. Patricia Zahn about UMSL's community giving and a financial update from Mr. Rick Baniak.

Report of the Student Government Association (SGA), Ms. Kathryn Loucks:

Ms. Loucks reported that the Student Government Association has six new senators. She thanked everyone for participating in the SGA-sponsored Campus Safe Walk which occurred October 3. Ms. Loucks stated that for the seventh year in a row the biggest concern from the Safe Walk was the amount of lights that were out throughout the campus. The results of the Safe Walk found that approximately 150 lights were out, broken, or need to be installed to improve safety in specific dark areas. The SGA is making a recommendation that a light survey be established semiannually or quarterly to maintain lights. Another big concern of the Safe Walk was the amount of pavement cracks and potholes around campus, specifically on Grobman Drive. Ms. Loucks pointed out that the cracks and potholes are a safety concern for both drivers and pedestrians. She commented that the cracks and potholes also give a bad first impression to potential students and parents when they are touring the campus.

Enrollment Report & Metro Plan Proposal, Mr. Alan Byrd:

Mr. Alan Byrd, Dean of Enrollment, presented information to the University Assembly about enrollment, cost comparisons, and recruitment challenges and goals. Mr. Byrd explained the steps to enhance recruitment efforts. The Assembly discussed various ways to increase enrollment such as increasing classes on Fridays. He introduced the proposal to expand the Metro Rate to all of Illinois rather than just the current 22 counties in Illinois. The members of the Assembly discussed the idea of expanding the Metro Rate to the entire state of Illinois. **A motion was made to endorse the Metro Rate proposal conditional on the review of the Budget and Planning Committee. The motion passed unanimously.**

Recreation and Wellness Center Update, Ms. Yvette Kell/Ms. Miriam Roccia:

Ms. Yvette Kell, Director of the Recreation and Wellness Center, briefed the Assembly on membership numbers, fiscal responsibility, facility usage, and programming participation. Ms. Miriam Roccia, Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life, presented information about student development at the Rec Center. She stated that the Rec Center employs about 100 students on campus. Ms. Roccia presented information about the revenue and expenses during FY 16. Ms. Kell announced that an advisory committee is being formed. It will consist of faculty, staff, students, and community members who will serve as a voice for the membership and provide advice on policies, procedures, and programs to be offered. Ms. Kell announced that the gym will be closed over the winter break for re-surfacing. Membership rates will be adjusted accordingly during the closure. Ms. Kell addressed the questions from the University Assembly.

Learning Management System Presentation, Dr. Andy Goodman:

Dr. Goodman, Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, informed the University Assembly that his office has collected the data from faculty, staff, and students from surveys and demo sessions regarding their preferences for Blackboard and Canvas. Several Senate and University Assembly committees are making recommendations, as well as various other groups. A final decision about the LMS will be made by Nov. 30, 2016. After a contract is signed with either Blackboard or Canvas, the campus community will be notified of the decision which is expected to be before finals and the holiday break.

Budget and Planning Committee Report, Dr. Sel Dibooglu:

Dr. Dibooglu reported that the Budget and Planning Committee will meet on Nov. 11 at 3:00 in 402 JCPenney. The agenda items are the efforts to increase enrollment and the Metro Rate proposal. All are welcome to attend.

There being no other business, the University Assembly meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Hall
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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