

**Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
December 8, 2009 - 3 p.m.
126 JCPenney**

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair, Dr. Matthew Keefer.

The minutes of the meeting from November 10, 2009 were approved.

Report of the Chairperson:

Chair Keefer briefed the attendees about the budget discussions from the previous meeting. The crucial issue of the 5% reduction in the state appropriations will affect the upcoming budgets. At the last meeting the proposed 2% wage pool increase in addition to the 5% reduction was also discussed. The faculty senate did not support the 2% wage pool increase. When Dr. Keefer attended the IFC meeting, he relayed that message to President Forsee. Dr. Keefer reported that the Columbia campus does not support the 2% wage pool increase either. He commented that through shared governance the Budget and Planning Committee and the Program Audit Committee will work on these budget issues in the coming weeks.

Report of the Chancellor:

Chancellor George reported that the governor is proposing a 5.2% reduction in our budget in addition to freezing tuition. The reduction translates to about a \$3 million dollar cut from our budget. The Budget and Planning committee will be working on ways to cut costs and will also make recommendations.

Chancellor George talked about the curators visit to UMSL on December 10 and 11, 2009. He explained the presentations that will be made throughout their visit including the orientations for the new curators (Goode, Downing and Bradley). Chancellor George asked Dr. Keefer to brief the attendees about his presentation to the curators at the faculty senate breakfast. Dr. Keefer said the topic for the senate breakfast will be civic engagement. In addition to Dr. Keefer, the presenters will be Dr. Mindy Bier and Dr. Kristy Tucciarone. GraceMarie Ritter and Courtney Rockamann will represent the students and give a power point presentation about their projects with civic engagement. Table hosts will also be present to talk to the guests about their work in civic engagement.

Presentation from the Director of Admissions (Mr. Alan Byrd):

Newly hired Director of Admissions, Mr. Alan Byrd, gave a power point presentation which addressed enrollment issues, recruitment challenges, short-term/long-term goals for admissions, retention and tuition costs. Mr. Byrd encouraged the faculty to meet with potential students during their campus visits. He said that when potential students meet with faculty, it makes a

great difference in their enrollment process. The presentation was very well-received and applauded by the Senate. Mr. Byrd's entire presentation can be viewed at www.umsl.edu/committees/senate.

Committee Reports:

Budget and Planning (Dr. Terry Jones):

Dr. Jones reported that the Budget and Planning Committee met on December 4, 2009 to consider some new fee requests and also to discuss the process that will take place for the upcoming budget cuts (approximately \$3-4 million dollars). Weekly meetings will be scheduled from mid-February through mid-April to deliberate on the budget cuts and reach a consensus. The recommendations from this committee will give the Program Audit Committee time to do its deliberations.

Curriculum and Instruction (Mr. Michael Allison):

The College of Education's certification for Adult Education and Literacy was presented. The program was approved unanimously.

Assessment of Educational Outcomes (Dr. Paulette Isaac-Savage):

The AEO committee has had monthly meetings since September. They identified three possible strategies that could be used for assessment. The committee decided to focus on assessment tools. Each committee member was asked to bring their department's assessment tools. After the committee examined the various departments' evaluation tools, they decided that they should get feedback from the faculty to create a campus-wide assessment evaluation tool. The committee will be presenting some questions to faculty to gain their insight. The committee found that there are too many variations with the evaluations, but they hope to make the evaluations more consistent. The committee also inquired as to what each department is doing with the information they receive from their assessment tools. They asked if departments are making changes that need to be made. Dr. Isaac-Savage plans to return next semester to address the senate with some questions on the assessment topic.

IFC (Dr. Paul Speck):

Dr. Speck reinforced what Dr. Keefer reported from the meeting with President Forsee. Chair Keefer mentioned that the subject of academic dishonesty and greater faculty involvement has recently been addressed. If faculty members would like to discuss their opinions on academic dishonesty with Dr. Keefer, please let him know.

Other Business:

Mr. Rocky Keel reminded everyone to complete the Instruction Technology survey which is located on My Gateway. He asked that faculty encourage the students to take the survey as well.

As the chair of the Faculty Teaching and Service Awards committee, Mr. Keel encouraged everyone to submit nominations for the President's Award for Outstanding Teaching. The deadline is January 15, 2010.

The Faculty Teaching Awards committee met at the end of October and reviewed award guidelines. The committee discussed the four system-level awards that are each awarded with a \$15,000 stipend. The committee's opinion was that the award amounts may be too high. Mr. Keel said the committee recommended that the IFC discuss the matter with the other campuses to consider reducing the amounts of the awards so that the remainder of the money could be used for other programs. Dr. Paul Speck asked about the rationale for that recommendation. Mr. Keel responded that the committee thought it would be prudent in these tough economic times. Mr. Keel made a motion that the award amounts be reduced from \$15,000 to \$5,000.

After much discussion on the merits of the reduction of the award stipend, a vote was taken. The motion did not pass. The faculty senate voted that the amount of the system-level awards should remain at \$15,000.

As a point of information, Dr. Tom McPhail, Chair of the Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Committee, announced that the deans have been notified that any non-tenure track person that is being considered for promotion has to submit their dossier to the Provost's office by February 15, 2010.

Executive Session:

The Senate met in Executive Session to consider candidates nominated to receive honorary degrees.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Zuleyma Tang-Martinez
Assembly/Senate Secretary

(minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate Office)