

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
December 7, 2010 - 3 p.m.
126 JCPenney**

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Chair, Dr. Michael Murray.

Chair Murray asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on November 9, 2010. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Michael Murray):

Dr. Murray announced that a retirement benefits meeting will be held on December 8 at 3 p.m. in 78 JCPenney. As members of the Ad Hoc Benefits Advisory Committee, Joe Martinich, Susan Feigenbaum, and Amanda La Brier will provide an update on the retirement benefits.

The Board of Curators will meet on the UMSL campus on Dec. 9 and 10. The Faculty Senate breakfast with the curators will be at 7:30 a.m. on Dec. 10. Student athletes will be highlighted.

New procedures for the faculty grievance process will be discussed at an upcoming meeting. The other three campuses have agreed in principle on details for a new process. There will be a short meeting on Friday, Dec. 10 to discuss the changes and how UMSL's process differs.

At the campus level, recent issues include preliminary reporting on results from the on-line marketing survey -- and how the results might be used in the future. Background on "shared services" across the system is also under study and being reported now.

Dr. Murray explained that at the last Senate meeting we said that we wanted to follow-up and investigate the formation of a committee to address violence prevention. The Steering Committee discussed this and discovered that the Provost has a Safety Committee. To avoid duplication of efforts -- and with the proviso of trying to keep us from having so many standing committees, we asked her to regenerate the Campus Safety committee.

Dr. Murray said that the Budget and Planning Committee is currently getting an update from an audit of the Office of Research Administration. Dr. Terry Jones will report on it today.

Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Thomas George):

Chancellor George invited the attendees to the Board of Curators meeting on Dec. 9 and 10. He explained that President Forsee will not be attending the meeting due to his wife's illness. Steve Owens (General Counsel) will attend in his absence. The curators will consider a \$260 million bond issue. UMSL decided not to have any items on the bond issue. President Forsee has told Chancellor George that he will re-double his efforts to work with legislators and find funding for Benton-Stadler. Chancellor George said the retirement plan project will also be discussed at the curators meeting, but he does not expect them to make any final decisions regarding the retirement plan.

Chancellor George announced that the curators approved re-naming the Computer Center Building to Express Scripts Hall. New signage will be installed and a dedication ceremony will be set.

IFC Report (written by Dr. Susan Feigenbaum)

The IFC met for an abbreviated telepresence meeting on November 19, 2010. We discussed the proposed policy on academic dishonesty. UM legal counsel Kate Markie summarized case law concerning allowable actions that faculty may take in response to confirmed instances of academic dishonesty, primarily plagiarism and cheating. She stated that while faculty may fail a student on a test or assignment that is compromised by dishonesty, a faculty member cannot punish a student for this dishonesty, for example, by failing the student in the course. In other words, faculty have the right to evaluate a student in terms of the quality of her work – which includes whether the work was performed in an honest way – but cannot act as “judge and jury” to punish the student. This must be handled through a separate, deliberative process. Several IFC members raised the question of whether indicating in the course syllabus that a student must adhere to professional standards (and spelling out these standards or giving a reference to them) would permit a professor to fail a student in a course if even one instance of academic dishonesty arose – for example, a journalism student that plagiarizes another writer. Markie admitted that this might be a way in which what might appear on the surface to be punishment – an F in the course – is really a grade that is reflective of the quality of a student’s academic work.

The IFC briefly discussed the pilot grievance process that has been tried at all of the UM campuses except UMSL. We agreed that there would be a special session – to be held on Friday, December 10 at 1 p.m. at UMSL – to explain the proposed changes and the experience of the other campuses with this new system during the past year.

The IFC discussed and voted on a modification to the current rules related to the award of an endowed professorship. This modification would permit an endowed Chair to be awarded as part of a focused effort of a campus to develop a specialized program or niche, whether in the teaching, research or outreach mission of the campus. The endowed professorship program has already been modified to permit these positions to be given to current faculty to recognize research or teaching accomplishments.

Finally, there was discussion about modifying the collected rules and regulations related to faculty-authored textbooks and selection of course materials. The concern that was raised had to do with development grants that have been given to faculty to “encourage” their use of certain textbooks in their classes. The IFC agreed to consider a change in the rules to prohibit such blatant conflict-of-interest while still permitting faculty to receive grants and other modes of compensation to review manuscripts, participate in the development of new textbooks, and so forth.

Committee Reports:

Budget and Planning Report (written by Dr. Terry Jones):

The University Assembly Budget and Planning Committee met November 19 and December 3. The agenda items for the November 19 meeting were the Summer School Funding Model implemented in Summer 2010, the campus response to the Missouri Department of Higher Education’s list of programs with low numbers of degrees granted, and the Fiscal 2012 Budget. The agenda items for the December 3 meeting were two aspects of the audit of the Office of Research Administration: grant funding and the IT Enterprises project.

Summer School Funding Model

Prior to 2010, the summer session budget policy had a collective excess revenue (educational fees - instructional costs) target for the five major academic units (Arts and Sciences, Business Administration, Education, Fine Arts and Communication, Nursing). The first X dollars (recently, about the first four million dollars) were built into the campus’s general operating budget. If excess revenues were more than that amount (the last time that happened was 2003), then the excess was shared by all units and the campus. If the target was not met (the case from 2004 to 2009), the campus overall budget absorbed the deficit.

The new funding model introduced in Summer 2010 set both an overall excess revenue target as well as separate revenue targets and expense accounts for each of the five major units. The underlying assumption was that since the major units could generate excess revenues, they would have a greater incentive to maximize educational fees and minimize instructional costs.

In its first year, the model generated enough excess revenues both to meet the campus operating budget amount (again, about four million dollars) and then produce an additional \$344,800. Under the model, 20% of these additional excess revenues are assigned to the overall campus budget and 80% are distributed to the major units based on the excess revenues each generated.

The Administration plans to retain this model at least for Summer 2011. The Committee had endorsed the new model in Fall 2009 and supports continuing this approach. It did request that if units are to receive excess revenue distributions (as was the case this year), they receive an estimate of the approximate amount (e.g., “it will be at least X”) in August rather than October so that the major units could do a better job building them into their expenditure budgets.

Programs With Low Numbers of Degrees Granted

Provost Cope reported on the campus response to each of the programs listed on the Missouri Department of Higher Education’s list of programs that, for 2007 through 2009, did not produce ten graduates (baccalaureate), five graduates (masters), or three graduates (doctoral) annually. These responses have been shared with the affected units.

Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Scenarios

The Administration provided the Committee with three budget scenarios for Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012). All scenarios assume a 2% salary/wage increase pool, a 9.9% increase in the cost of current staff benefits, an enrollment increase of 4,000 semester credit hours, and postponing the 5th year of the five-year funding plan for library acquisitions (\$240,000):

	<u>Scenario One</u>	<u>Scenario Two</u>	<u>Scenario Three</u>
State Appropriation Cut	5%	10%	15%
Educational Fee Increase	4%	7%	9%
Deficit	\$4,000,000	\$5,200,000	\$7,000,000

When more information is available about which scenario is the most likely (probably late January or early February), the Committee will hold five sessions between late February and early April. The first session will be informational, updating the budget scenario. The second and third meetings will present the Administration’s recommended reductions in non-academic areas and student affairs. The fourth meeting will present the Administration’s recommended

reductions in academic affairs. At the fifth meeting, the Committee will deliberate about all the proposed reductions and make its recommendations.

Office of Research Administration Audit

The Committee received briefings on both grant funding policies/trends and the IT Enterprises venture. Both are complex matters and the discussion of and deliberations about each were not completed at the December 3 meeting. These topics as well as other aspects of the Office of Research Administration Audit will constitute the agenda for at least one and possibly two Committee meetings early in the Spring 2011 Semester.

Faculty Teaching and Service Awards Report (Dr. Gualtiero Piccinini):

Dr. Piccinini informed the senators of changes to faculty awards. He directed them to the website that contains the entire list of faculty awards and encouraged them to make nominations. Dr. Piccinini gave a power point presentation which showed the following updated award listing and deadlines for nominations:

- Brice Ratchford Memorial Fellowship Award (\$5,000)
- James & Vera Olson Fund for Arts (\$35,000 towards the proposed performance)
- President's Award for Economic Development (\$5,000)
- President's Award for Excellence (\$5,000)
- President's Award for Faculty Engagement (\$5,000)
- President's Award for Innovative Teaching (\$5,000)
- President's Award for Inter-Campus Collaboration (\$5,000)
- President's Award for University Citizenship (\$5,000)
- Thomas Jefferson Award (\$10,000)

Curriculum and Instruction Report (Mr. Michael Allison):

Mr. Allison presented the following program proposals for approval:

- B.A. in History degree
- B.M. in Music Education degree
- M.S. in Biology degree
- Masters of Public Policy Administration degree
- Ph.D. in Biology degree

All program proposals were approved by the Senate.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Willman
Assembly/Senate Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate Office)