

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
University Assembly and Faculty Senate
February 21, 2012 - 3 p.m.
202 J C Penney**

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Senate Secretary, Dr. Fred Willman. Senate Chair Mike Murray was attending an IFC meeting in Columbia. He asked Dr. Willman to conduct the meeting on his behalf.

Dr. Willman asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on January 24, 2012. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Fred Willman for Dr. Murray:

Dr. Willman read Dr. Murray's report which stated that the Senate Steering Committee met with Chancellor George and Provost Cope to discuss UMSL's response to the required cuts to the campus budget. He reported that the Budget and Planning Committee will be holding meetings in the next couple of months to review where the cuts may take place. The review will include a discussion about low-producing programs which were identified by the Program Audit Committee and what programs or academic units may be consolidated or eliminated.

Report of the Chancellor, Dr. Tom George:

Chancellor George reported some good news items:

- Karen Cummings, Coordinator of Art Education, has garnered national recognition by winning the 2012 Western Region Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award.
- Bob Ricklefs' research continues to bring international attention to UMSL. His findings related to the makeup of the earth's forests were recently carried in the journal *Science*.
- Last week, nine UMSL Media Studies students received recognition during the St. Louis ADDY awards which is the world's largest and toughest advertising competition. Two of our students – Nick Silva and Terrell Davis - received 1st place awards.
- Optometry student Jennifer Sidun is the first UMSL student ever elected president of the American Optometric Student Association – a national organization.
- Fred Willman was inducted into the Missouri Music Education Association Hall of Fame.

Chancellor George provided an update on the budget. He explained that Governor Jay Nixon has proposed a 7.8% reduction in state appropriations to higher education – down from his original 12.5% cut recommendation. The Board of Curators approved a 3% increase for in-state undergraduate tuition and an 8.2% increase for out-of-state and all graduate courses. These combined actions (and a 1% matching salary fund) will create a \$4.4 million budget shortfall for FY 2013. Budget and Planning Committee meetings will be scheduled to determine how best to approach these cuts, but in all likelihood, it will probably be the elimination of 30-50 positions.

Report of the Staff Association, Ms. Amanda La Brier:

- The Staff Association raised \$1,001 from the Holiday Bazaar that will go towards the John Perry Scholarship fund.
- “Pack the Stands Night” was held on February 16 at the Mark Twain Gym. Many staff members attended the event to show support for the UMSL basketball teams.
- The Staff Association is conducting a fundraiser by selling travel mugs for \$15. The travel mugs are still available if anyone is interested in purchasing one.
- The Spring Staff Association meeting will be held on March 13 at noon. Chancellor George will update staff members and Sgt. Dan Contarini will address safety issues.
- The Golf Scramble is scheduled for April 20 at Normandie Golf Club. The cost is \$40.00 per person or \$160 per team.

Report of the Student Government Association, Mr. Steven Brockman for Ms. Jericah Selby:

Mr. Brockman reported that the Student Government Association is preparing a student referendum so that students can vote on a proposal for a new Recreation/Wellness Center for the UMSL campus. The proposed facility would be a 95,000 sq. ft. building located between the Millennium Student Center and J C Penney. The proposed floor plan includes a gym with three basketball courts and an elevated running track, 14,000 sq. ft. of weight and fitness space, four multi-purpose rooms, a six-lane pool, lounge/game room, locker rooms and wellness center rooms. The cost of the wellness center is estimated at \$35 million. The center would be funded with student fees which would be \$19.25 per credit hour with a 12-hour cap for the fall and spring semesters. The facility would be available to faculty, staff and alumni for a fee.

Members of the Faculty Senate expressed some of the following concerns:

- Additional costs in student fees may be too burdensome for students
- Parking availability, especially disabled parking
- How will the Mark Twain building be used?
- Comparison rates of what other campuses pay in fees for their centers
- Senators agreed that the center will be very beneficial especially for residential students, but asked if this will help to retain/recruit enough students to justify the costs of building a new facility.
- Advantages/disadvantages of building the center on North vs. South Campus

Mr. Brockman said that the SGA is hoping the new recreation facility will create a better community environment for students and also help to recruit new students. He reported that if anyone is interested in additional information about the wellness center proposal, there will be two informational open forums on Feb. 27 at 9:30 and 11:00 in 315 MSC. The students will vote on the referendum on March 12-15.

Recruitment and Retention Update, Mr. Alan Byrd:

Mr. Byrd presented an update on admissions. He announced that UMSL applications for Fall of 2012 are up by 15%. Mr. Byrd reported that UMSL's marketing efforts in Illinois have paid off. He gave a power point presentation to highlight information regarding tuition comparisons with other Missouri institutions. He provided information about tuition discount rates, merit aid, and Pell grant awards. He also showed statistics regarding the annual family income of UMSL students (69% of UMSL students come from homes that make \$50,000 or less). He reported that the total cost of attendance at UMSL for one year is \$23,534 (including room, board, books, and miscellaneous expenses). He told the Senate that the average student loan debt for a bachelor's degree is \$27,334.

The Senators discussed the information presented by Mr. Byrd and voiced their concerns.

There being no other business, the University Assembly meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Faculty Senate Meeting

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 4:12 by Senate Secretary, Dr. Fred Willman.

Dr. Willman did not have any additional comments for the Chair's Report.

Chancellor George did not have additional information for the Chancellor's report.

Committee reports:

Curriculum and Instruction (Mr. Michael Allison):

Mr. Allison presented the following program proposals:

- Change in the B.S. in Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Change in the minor in Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Change in the Masters of Accounting
- Change in the M.Ed. in School Counseling
- Change in the Policy Research and Analysis Emphasis area in Master of Public Policy Administration
- Addition of the Graduate Certificate in Community College Leadership

All of the above program proposals were approved.

Appointments, Tenure, & Promotion (Dr. Susan Brownell):

Dr. Brownell reported that the committee met on Dec. 7, 2011 to consider the dossiers of two candidates for a Curators' Professorship. Recommendations were made to Chancellor George.

The committee met again on Jan. 13, 2012 to consider 19 cases for tenure and promotion. The cases reviewed were as follows:

- 7 – Promotion to Professor
- 12 – Tenure and promotion to Associate Professor

Recommendations were subsequently made to Chancellor George.

The committee will meet again in March to review policies and guidelines and consider making any recommendations.

Committee on Committees: (Dr. Sanjiv Bhatia):

Dr. Bhatia reported that Dr. Mary Troy has resigned from the Faculty Teaching and Service Awards Committee. The Committee on Committees recommended that Jeanne Allison replace Mary Troy to complete her term which expires on July 31, 2012.

All were in favor of the committee's nomination for Jeanne Allison to serve on the Awards Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Willman
Assembly/Senate Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate Office)