Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
March 20, 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 Chair, Dr. Michael Murray.

Chair Murray asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on February 21, 2012. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Michael Murray:
Dr. Murray reported that the Senate Steering Committee met with the Chancellor and Provost last week. The meeting also included Dr. Krueger, who oversees the budget, and Dr. Terry Jones, Chair of the Budget & Planning Committee.

In preparation for next year's cuts, the Budget & Planning Committee held a meeting on March 16. Some of the preliminary cuts were discussed and it is anticipated that the "second-wave" of cuts will be presented at follow-up Budget & Planning meetings. The first-wave targeted some fee-based programs. Dr. Murray explained that the second wave of targeted cuts will once again not be "across the board" but will require some sharing across some colleges due to increases in class size in some of the smaller units. The unit leaders are reviewing low-producing programs – those with smaller numbers of students, including graduate students. He stated that there will also likely be some changes in the way grant funds are distributed.

Dr. Murray further reported that it has been decided at the system level that "across the board" cuts will not work and all cuts should be targeted. Some programs and positions have been merged and eliminated over the past three years, and this is expected to continue. The campus still has one point nine million left to address.

Dr. Murray stated that the Senate and Assembly are preparing for next year by having all of the full-time faculty complete preference polls to volunteer for potential committee service. He said that the Senate's Five-Year Review this past year showed the need for us to broaden our base of participation and also try to improve the general understanding of what we do -- and how we function. It reported on the "perception" that we were perhaps less representative than we think we are. But perception being reality; it's what we hope to accomplish.

Chair Murray explained that the UMSL radio station, KWMU, will be moving into a new campus building in the Grand Center, downtown in May – and some academic programs will be included in that move. He added that the work of the Safety committee continues as well as a climate survey—both supported by the Provost, with representation from the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Murray reported that the other key issue that just "bubbled-up" once again is the Spring Break schedule. He said that someone at the system office just asked the Provost -- within the last 24-hours -- if we would consider moving it up two weeks. Dr. Murray asked the Steering Committee members to consider the on-going arguments about moving it again. The campus has debated this issue many times. The thinking is that we could move-up Spring Break by two

weeks, so Break would be in the middle of the semester. He noted that UMSL's Break is considered very late for many colleges; since most are the second or third week of March. He remarked that our colleagues point out that Parkway and Pattonville districts are off this week and some of the private schools are always off the two weeks before our break started. He explained that another point to consider is that our student-athletes would be better off because most other schools have early spring breaks and some of our baseball, softball and golf teams have to head south in early to mid-March, which causes them to miss more classes. Dr. Murray asked the members of the Steering Committee to survey the local high schools especially the big districts to see when their spring breaks were scheduled. Dr. Murray asked Michael Allison about this issue because he is responsible as Chair of the Curriculum and Instruction Committee for bringing any academic calendar changes forward on behalf of that committee. Dr. Murray suggested that the Senate may want to address this topic further under "new business" after the C&I report.

In conclusion, Dr. Murray reported that a Senate orientation has been added to the First Organizational meeting on April 3. Dr. Murray hopes that both newly elected Senators and current Senators will appreciate the review about how the Senate operates. He has also asked the Committee Chairs to join the orientation briefing and describe their committee activities. Dr. Murray reminded the attendees that at the April 3rd Organizational meeting, voting will take place for the following positions: a Senate Chair, a Senate Secretary, and members of the Committee on Committees and also the designation of a Parliamentarian.

Report of the Chancellor, Dr. Thomas George:

Chancellor George stated that he would be happy to answer any questions about the budget cuts or other matters that Dr. Murray referenced.

On a different matter, Chancellor George noted that he had cleared an invitation with the Senate to have Ms. Jericah Selby, the President of the Student Government Association, to take a brief leave from her internship in order to attend today's meeting. Last week, the students voted on a referendum for a new Recreation/Wellness Center. The referendum passed with 2/3 vote. Chancellor George asked Ms. Selby to explain the process and the outcome.

Ms. Selby reported that the process of creating the referendum has taken a long time. The students worked with administrators, faculty members and a consulting firm to gather information about a new wellness/recreation center. Long extensive surveys were done and 800 students responded. They assessed the survey responses to find out exactly what students were looking for in a wellness/recreation center for the campus. They looked at student fees and how much it would cost to build the center. They found that the students would have to pay an additional $19.25 per credit hour (for full-time students) to fund the center.

The students voted on the referendum during the period of March 12-15. Their goal was to raise awareness about the referendum and educate students about the wellness/recreation center. Ten students were dedicated to working on the referendum. The students worked very hard to encourage all students to vote. Ms. Selby explained that they did not pressure students to vote yes or no, but just wanted them to vote on the issue. They discovered that using I-pads was helpful during the voting process. Students seemed to welcome that method of voting.

Ms. Selby commented that she was most proud of the number of students that voted. The total number of students who voted was 1,543. Of that total, 1,013 were in favor of the referendum. The referendum will now go to UM System, then onto the Board of Curators for approval.

Chancellor George praised Ms. Selby and all the students for their diligence and hard work. The Senators applauded their efforts. Dr. Keefer commented that the students should be thanked for stepping up to the plate and getting things done. Dr. Murray added a compliment about the work of the Student Government and the overall manner in which this referendum was handled.

IFC Report (written by Dr. Steve Moehrle)

Dr. Moehrle presented the following information in a power point presentation:

Introduction to President Wolfe:

- IFC had first meeting with the new system President
- First impressions - very favorable
- Good speaker /good listener/likable demeanor
- Seems very respectful of the special roles and talents of University faculty and staff
- Sensitive to his role as system President

Academic Affairs – Non-tenure track librarians with faculty status:

- Certain UMKC librarians who hold ranked faculty status with UMKC
- The UMKC HR leaders reclassified these non-tenure track but ranked faculty to staff ostensibly because of PeopleSoft constraints
- The UMKC librarians requested that their faculty status be memorialized in the Collected Rules and Regulations of the system
- This is almost complete
- The wording will be such that
  - Librarians must have their faculty status approved by their campus' faculty
  - Librarians will retain the right to choose not to hold faculty status

Human Resources: Domestic Partner Benefits:

- Remains on the IFC agenda
- Curator Committee is examining the issue
- The IFC plans to discuss it with President Wolfe at an upcoming meeting

Budget:

- Budget Guiding Principles
  - Maintaining and enhancing the quality of the student academic experience is the highest priority
  - Budget reductions and increases should be consistent with the vision and strategic priorities as stated in the campus and system strategic plans
  - Make the hard decisions about what we will continue to do well in the future with available resources and what we can no longer continue to do and develop a plan to discontinue the latter
- Lower state reduction from 12.5% to 7.8%
- Was a reduction of $48 million / now a reduction of $30 million
- Resident undergraduate tuition up 3%
- Non-resident and graduate tuition raises reflect market and demand

Closing the Budget Gap:

- Cost savings
  - Faculty and staff workforce reductions
    - Combination of open and filled position eliminations
    - 200 – 245 FTE system-wide
  - Reduction in planned investments in strategic initiatives
  - Reductions in general revenue funding
    - Centers and institutes
    - Auxiliaries
    - Research
  - Consolidation and elimination of academic programs and departments
  - Reduction in planned salary and wage merit increases
  - Implementation of shared services
  - Reduction in other operating costs
    - Travel
    - Professional development
    - Energy efficient measures
- Revenue Enhancements
  - Improved student accounts receivable collections
  - Increased tuition revenue from distance / on-line education
  - Increased institutional support from auxiliaries
  - Increased donor support for scholarships and faculty positions
  - Increased investment income allocation

Legislative Update:

- Two key bills to watch
  - Bill to match private donations for classroom space dollar for dollar with state money
  - Bill to require 25 courses that are fully transferable across state institutions
    - This will pass
    - There are already 25 courses that meet the description
    - System would like to take the logic of the bill further and create a data base of courses that full transfer across Universities
      - Good for students
      - Reduces the need to expand from 25 courses to a greater (and less easily accomplished) number

IFC Agenda:

- Monitor the 403(B) administration issue
- Monitor the progress of the domestic partner benefits initiative
- Monitor the activities of the performance funding task force
- Monitor the budget activities

Committee report:
Curriculum and Instruction Report (Mr. Michael Allison):
Mr. Allison presented the following program proposals:

- Addition of the Certificate in Actuarial Studies
- Change in B.A. in Art History
- Change in M.Ed. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling
- Change in College of Fine Arts & Communication Requirements for Undergraduate Study
- Addition of Gender Studies Certificate in Women's Leadership
- Change in M.S. in Gerontology
- Change in Graduate Certificate in Gerontology
- Change in Undergraduate Certificate in Gerontological Studies
- Change in Managing Human Resources and Organizations Emphasis Area in the Master of Public Policy Administration
- Change in Ph.D. in Nursing

All of the above program proposals were approved.

Other business:
Returning to the issue of the week when Spring Break is scheduled, at the Chair's request, Michael Allison provided some historical background on how the academic calendar is created. Provost Cope explained that UMKC contacted UMSL and asked if UMSL would be interested in changing the spring break to two weeks earlier than it is currently scheduled. Dr. Murray had asked Dr. Moehrle to research local school districts to see when their spring breaks occurred. Dr. Moehrle checked the websites of the local school districts and found that many of their Spring Breaks occurred a week before UMSL's. Dr. Moehrle made the argument that scheduling UMSL's spring break to coincide with the area school districts would be in the best interest of UMSL since we have so many non-traditional adults who are parents. Moving the spring break up two weeks would also benefit the student athletes who have to travel to southern states during that time. Dr. Martinich suggested that members of IFC should discuss this issue and come to an agreement to present to UM System. As Parliamentarian, Dr. Terry Jones recommended that our Senate should reach an agreement first. Dr. Murray took a vote. All were in agreement that moving the Spring Break week forward two weeks for UMSL would be beneficial to our campus. The Faculty Senate asked that UMSL IFC representatives relay that information to the IFC at their meeting the following day.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Willman
Assembly/Senate Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate Office)