

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
March 19, 2013 - 3 p.m.
202 JCPenney**

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Senate Chair, Dr. Chris Spilling. Dr. Spilling asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on Feb. 19, 2013. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Chris Spilling:

Chair Spilling welcomed UM System President Tim Wolfe and thanked him for attending an UMSL senate meeting. Dr. Spilling reported on the strategic plan and provided updated information. He announced UMSL's strategy statement. He explained the process of using themes, levers, and actions and how they will be used to develop the strategic plan. Attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions about the strategic plan and a discussion was held.

Dr. Spilling also reminded the senate of the following items:

- April 2 – Faculty Senate First Organizational Meeting & Orientation for 2013-2014
- April 5 – Teaching/Service Award Nominations due
- May 7 – Faculty Senate Second Organizational Meeting

Report of the Chancellor, Dr. Thomas George:

Chancellor George provided a legislative update:

- In his state-of-the-state address, Governor Nixon gave \$34 million to higher education. This is a 4% increase, but really a 3% increase since last year's 1% withholding is now permanent.
- The House Budget Committee is chaired by UMSL alum Rick Stream. House Bill 3 cuts the Governor's increase back to \$20 million, which is associated with just casino revenues. The House appears to be moving away from a performance funding model.
- UM System President Tim Wolfe is talking about the campuses competing for the increase, and also coming up with matching funds. The Budget and Planning Committee will be meeting to discuss this at the next several meetings.
- Senate Joint Resolution 3 and House Joint Resolution 14 proposes a bond issue of \$1.2 billion. Off the top comes \$50 million for parks, \$250 million for Fulton State Hospital (mental health), and 15% of the remaining portion for higher education is slated for community colleges. Our top priority and also top in the system is the second phase of renovation for Benton-Stadler. Transportation would not be part of this proposed bonding issue – that would be part of a separate bill for a one-cent sales tax increase which has now passed out of the Senate and could yield nearly \$1 billion per year.

Chancellor George thanked UM System President Tim Wolfe for attending and introduced him to the Senate.

UM System President Tim Wolfe:

President Wolfe thanked the Chancellor and Senate for the opportunity to speak at the senate meeting. President Wolfe commented on the importance of the strategic plan. He said that the strategic plan affects the campus in many ways such as: influencing the faculty and students we retain, where our investments are in terms of innovative instruction, and research and economic development. He stated that campus priorities should be dictated by its strategy statement. The statement will show how we communicate to our constituents and how we will attract resources to UMSL in the future. President Wolfe said that he appreciated the work that has been done on the campus' strategic plan so far. In terms of how the new funds will be allocated, all of the chancellors have agreed to use the following four criteria:

- Strategic value
- Matching funds
- Ability to replicate a solution to other campuses across the system
- Student success

President Wolfe opened the floor for questions and he provided answers to the senator's questions.

President Wolfe encouraged the faculty to talk to family, friends and others about education as a priority in the state. He asked them to try to offset the negative image of higher education in terms of cost, tuition, student debt, etc. On a positive note, President Wolfe said that there are political leaders and business leaders who understand that higher education has the potential for providing positive change in the state. He commented that he appreciates what the faculty does and he understands the challenges.

Guest Report, Staff Association, Mr. Robert Peterson:

Mr. Peterson announced that the Staff Council has also been involved with the strategic plan and will continue to participate through the Budget and Planning Committee. Mr. Peterson said that the Staff Association will conduct the Focus on the Future classes during the week of Spring Break. The classes will focus on information technology and health and wellness issues. Mr. Peterson also reminded attendees to participate in the Staff Association's golf tournament which will be held on April 19.

Guest Report, Student Government Association, Mr. Steven Brockman:

Mr. Brockman commented that he wanted to take this time to acknowledge that one of the big strengths at this university is including the students at every level of involvement. He said that it means a lot to students and they are grateful for the support.

Mr. Brockman displayed new renderings of the proposed Wellness and Recreation Center. He pointed out the details of the photos and explained the set-up of the building. He asked for the faculty's opinion as to the outside appearance of the building. The faculty members pointed out that the rest of the buildings on campus are brick. Therefore, this new building should also be brick so that it blends in well with the nearby buildings.

A question was raised about the importance of students completing on-line evaluations and how to encourage their participation. Mr. Brockman said that SGA could put it on their future agenda.

Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) Report, Dr. Steve Moehrle:

Dr. Moehrle updated the Senate on the topics discussed at the IFC meeting as follows:

- UM Faculty Scholars:
 - Professional development program
 - Shelved during budget struggles in 2008
 - Restarted this year
 - Excellent opportunity for early career faculty
 - Emphasis on effective strategies for:
 - Teaching
 - Research and grant writing
 - Career management
 - Valuable development opportunity for research and teaching faculty
 - Please nominate your colleagues for next year's program
- Patents and Commercialization in the Tenure and Promotion Process:
 - Discussing the role that successful patents and commercialization of technologies should play in our tenure and promotion practice
 - The IFC is currently soliciting views from faculty colleagues
 - Please provide your perspective to Chris, Susan, or Steve Moehrle
 - IFC will revisit the issue at an upcoming meeting armed with input from the campuses
- Missouri House Bill 291:
 - Related to the teaching of intelligent design
 - Such bills are introduced frequently
 - Never go anywhere
 - UM Faculty and Staff are encouraged to remain silent on the matter so as not to inflame the issue
 - UM VP Steve Knorr will inform us should the bill gain any momentum

Promotion of Non-Tenure Track Faculty Committee Report, Dr. Bill Klein:

Dr. Klein provided the following update:

- On March 1, 2013 the NTT Promotion Committee met to consider promotion of 19 NTT faculty members from Clinical, Research, and Teaching tracks.
 - 15 from College of Arts and Sciences
 - 3 from College of Nursing
 - 1 from College of Fine Arts and Communication
- The promotion cases reviewed:
 - 8 – to Teaching Professor
 - 7 - to Associate Teaching Professor
 - 2 - to Assistant Teaching Professor
 - 1 - to Associate Research Professor
 - 1 - to Associate Clinical Professor

All 19 cases received positive votes for promotion. Recommendations were forwarded to Provost Cope.

Dr. Klein also reported that next year there will be a pilot for an electronic submission process for promotion dossiers. A workshop for the electronic submission process will take place on May 3, 2013. Please check the Center for Teaching and Learning for more details.

Assessment of Educational Outcomes Committee Report, Mr. Don Gouwens:

Mr. Gouwens stated that this committee has been working hard to promote assessment throughout the university. He commented that by making our courses more effective, it not only makes our teaching better, but it clearly improves the learning experience for students, which is going to help with retention and strengthen our program.

Mr. Gouwens presented a change to one of the five evaluation questions as follows:

1. The syllabus clearly expressed the goals, expectations, and the nature of the course.
2. The instructor of this course has given me adequate ways to contact him or her, via e-mail, phone, discussion board, office hours, or appointment time.
3. The course required that I come to class ready and prepared.
Change to read: The course required me to be prepared for the learning activities.
4. Information was available so I could track my academic performance during the semester.
5. This course expanded my analytical thinking, my technical skills, my creativity, my knowledge, and/or my competence.

All were in favor of the change.

Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report, Mr. Michael Allison:

Mr. Allison presented the following program proposals:

- Change in the Bachelor of Liberal Studies
- Change in the B.S. in Civil Engineering, the B.S. in Electrical Engineering, and the B.S. in Mechanical Engineering
- Change in the Masters in Public Policy Administration, Local Government Management Emphasis
- Change in the Ed.D. in Educational Practice
- Change in the Local Government Management Certificate

All were in favor of these proposals with one vote against the Ed.D in Educational Practice proposal.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Martinich
Assembly/Senate Secretary

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