Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
November 15, 2022
Zoom meeting

Senate Chair Jon McGinnis called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. following the University Assembly meeting. Dr. McGinnis asked for approval of the Senate minutes from the meeting on Oct. 25, 2022. The minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Jon McGinnis):
- Dr. McGinnis welcomed Mr. David Beverly as the senator who is replacing Liuqing Mai from the Finance and Legal Studies Department.
- Dr. McGinnis encouraged the faculty to attend commencement ceremonies. The next commencement ceremony is Dec. 17. More details will be provided in the Senate Snapshot.
- Dr. McGinnis addressed the Senate about a message that was sent to all senators from a retired MU professor who raised issues about the UM System retirement plan. Dr. McGinnis explained that he received a couple of messages from senators who were concerned about the retirement plan. To address faculty concerns, Dr. McGinnis met with the Senate Steering Committee, Chancellor Sobolik, Provost Berberich, Interim HR Executive Director Jill Wood, and Mr. Eric Vogelweid, UM System Controller, who discussed the status of the retirement plan, as well as the CRRs that pertain to the management of the retirement plan. Dr. McGinnis told the Faculty Senate that the administrators assured him that the retirement plan is solid and is carefully monitored by the Board of Curators.
- Dr. McGinnis announced that the Faculty Senate will be voting on a change to the librarians’ status a bit later in this meeting.

Dr. McGinnis asked Chancellor Sobolik if she had any additional information to report to the Faculty Senate. Chancellor Sobolik replied that she did not have anything additional to report.

Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report (Dr. Pamela Stuerke):
While C&I Committee Chair Michael Allison was in class, Dr. Stuerke presented the following curriculum proposal for the Senate’s review:
- Addition of B.A. in Psychology (MU/UMSL Joint Psychology Degree Program)

The Senate approved the proposal.

Librarian Status Change Proposal (Ms. Jaleh Fazelian/Dr. Alice Hall):
Ms. Fazelian, UMSL Librarian, presented the following information to the Senate:
- Currently the UMSL librarians have no protections as they are not classified as faculty or staff.
- Librarians at MU and UMKC are non-tenure track faculty (NTT). They have already worked to amend the CRR for NTT librarians. A similar discussion is taking place at MS&T.
- Why now? A 2012 Joint Committee on College Library Problems, a national committee representing the Association of College and Research Libraries, the Association of American Colleges (Now the American Association of Colleges and Universities), and the American Association of University Professors recommend librarians have faculty status.
A motion was made to change the status of the librarians to NTT faculty. The motion was seconded. The Senate discussed how this change would be put into place, if approved. It was noted that the Senate Operating Rules would have to be modified to include this change. The NTT promotion guidelines will also have to be changed to incorporate the librarians’ titles and promotion status. There may also be a need to review the CRRs to review the “professorial designation.” After discussion, the Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve this motion.

**Spring Research Panel Report (Dr. Michael Gearhart):**
Committee Chair Mike Gearhart explained that the committee is proposing the following highlighted changes to the criteria for the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research and Creativity:

- **Nomination & Evaluation Procedure:**
  - Priority will be given to applicants who demonstrate sustained merit and contributions in research and creativity to the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

The Faculty Senate approved the proposed change unanimously by a voice vote.

Dr. Gearhart presented the following proposal for the UMSL Research Award criteria. The change is highlighted below:

- Explicit justification for each budget item. Specific justification for funding for a research assistant and any requested teaching replacement costs.

The Faculty Senate approved the proposed change unanimously by a voice vote.

**Intercampus Faculty Cabinet (IFC) Report (Dr. Sanjiv Bhatia):**
Dr. Bhatia reported that the IFC discussed the following topics at their meeting on Nov. 14:

- President Choi talked about the UM campuses’ aspirations for R1 status. Right now, only MU is R1. UMKC and S&T are further along on that status. The bar is at least $100M for research expenditure.
- CBHE has recommended a 7% increase in state funding.
- UMSL may be getting another 50-50 match for capital projects (*about $100M total).
- A human resources update was provided by Ms. Marsha Fischer. The new PTO plan for staff was approved by the Board of Curators.

Dr. McGinnis asked if there was any other business. Hearing none, Dr. McGinnis thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sanjiv Bhatia
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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