

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
University of Missouri-St. Louis  
Faculty Senate  
October 27, 2020  
Zoom Meeting**

Senate Chair Alice Hall called the Faculty Senate Zoom meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Hall asked for approval of the Senate minutes from the meeting on Sept. 22, 2020. The minutes were approved as written.

**Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Alice Hall):**

- Dr. Hall encouraged the faculty to review their benefit options during the annual open enrollment period from October 26 – November 6.
- Dr. Hall reminded the Senate that the deadline for completing the UM System annual training on Cybersecurity, Campus Safety, and Discrimination Prevention and Title IX is Dec. 22, 2020.
- Dr. Hall asked that faculty be accommodating to allow time for faculty, staff, and students to vote on Election Day – Nov. 3.
- Dr. Hall reported that the December Commencement will be held virtually on Dec. 19 with staggered start times by college. Faculty should encourage seniors who want to participate to register by Nov. 24.

**Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Kristin Sobolik):**

- Chancellor Sobolik reported that UMSL will continue to use the same format of online and blended teaching for next semester.
- Chancellor Sobolik stated that UMSL currently has 18 students who have COVID cases and three employees.
- Chancellor Sobolik announced that the first year retention rates have gone up from 77% to 82%; 6-year graduation rates for first-time freshman increased from 52% to 56%; transfer retention rates have gone from 75% – 81%; 6-year graduation rates have remained flat at 65%. Given those retention and graduation rates, UMSL is at the top of the nation for peer urban metropolitan institutions. She congratulated everyone for their good work.
- Chancellor Sobolik was pleased to report that the new cross country athletic teams for men and women just completed their first season at UMSL. The sport is a low COVID impact sport. The teams were excited to participate and represent UMSL for their first season of competition.
- UMSL's Founders Dinner will be held virtually on Oct. 29. Chancellor Sobolik encouraged everyone to attend. She said that there will be a special tribute for Wayne Goode which highlights his decades of dedication to the university.
- Chancellor Sobolik reported that the Council of Chancellors has been meeting. They have submitted their draft document regarding UM System leadership guidelines to the Board of Curators. The Curators will discuss and vote on the document at their November meeting.

Chancellor Sobolik addressed the questions and comments from the Faculty Senate.

### **Update from the Provost (Dr. Marie Mora):**

- Provost Mora reported that the Academic Program Prioritization Committee has had an aggressive meeting schedule. The committee members are analyzing lots of data and are meeting with deans and department chairs. A draft report is expected later this semester.
- The Extra Compensation Task Force has been meeting weekly to review different types of compensation. They will be organizing listening sessions and meetings with program directors to gather additional input.
- Provost Mora reported that the College of Business Administration dean search is moving forward. A campus announcement will be distributed regarding stakeholder meetings with the finalists, which are anticipated for mid-November.
- Provost Mora explained that the Teaching Effectiveness Task Force has been created to look at how to better assess teaching effectiveness by taking a more holistic approach to teaching. Updates will be provided as the work of the task force continues.

Provost Mora answered the questions of the Faculty Senate.

### **Title IX – Update on Policy Changes (Ms. Dana Beteet Daniels):**

Ms. Dana Beteet Daniels, Title IX Coordinator and Chief Equity Officer, provided an update on the recent policy changes to Title IX. She explained how sexual harassment has been defined in the regulation. She explained the reporting obligations and how faculty and staff are mandated reporters. She provided information on how investigations are conducted. She asked that if anyone has any questions about Title IX, they should contact her in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

### **Intercampus Faculty Cabinet (IFC) Report (Dr. Pamela Stuerke):**

Dr. Stuerke reported that the IFC met by Zoom on October 9 and discussed the following:

- Members of the Intercampus Student Council (ISC) attended part of the IFC meeting. The ISC has developed a resolution to thank the staff on all four campuses for all of their hard work during these past few months. The ISC asked the IFC to endorse the resolution. The ISC will present it to the Board.
- There are various collected rules and regulations (CRR) under review, but the discussions and proposed changes are on hold for now. Dr. Stuerke will keep the Senate updated on any changes.
- The members of IFC were briefed on some IT issues that came up with blending IT and HR systems. It was also reported that e-mail phishing issues continue to be a problem. The IFC members were reminded that storing e-mails in the “inbox” or “sent items” for years is not recommended. Instead, e-mails that need to be retained should be removed from the inbox and filed appropriately in separate folders.
- The IFC members met with UM System President Choi. It was reported that managing the pandemic has gone better than expected. President Choi also mentioned that the Council of Chancellors is proceeding well.
- There are plans to move forward with research funding proposals for Tier 3, but there will be a pause on Tier 1 & Tier 2 funding.

**Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report (Mr. Michael Allison):**

Dr. Hall asked the Faculty Senate to vote on the following uncomplicated curriculum proposals:

- Change to the M.Ed. in Elementary Education with Elementary Teacher Certification.
- Change to the graduate certificate in Elementary School Teaching.
- Change to the M.Ed. in Elementary Education with Elementary and Special Education Teacher Certification.
- Change to the graduate certificate in Elementary and Special Education Teaching.
- Change to the M.Ed. in Secondary Education with Teacher Certification.
- Change to the graduate certificate in Secondary School Teaching.
- Change to the Honors College certificate – 2-year program.

**The Faculty Senate approved all of the above uncomplicated proposals.**

Mr. Allison presented each of the following curriculum proposals to the Faculty Senate:

- Change to the Doctor of Business Administration
- Addition of the graduate certificate in Fintech
- Addition of the B.S. in Data Science and Analysis
- Change to the undergraduate certificate in Gerontological Studies
- Change to the M.A. in English
- Change to the graduate certificate in Mobile Apps and Computing
- Change to the M.Ed. in Elementary Education
- Change to the M.Ed. in Secondary Education
- Addition of the graduate certificate in Couple, Marriage, and Family Counseling
- Addition of the graduate certificate in Multicultural and Social Justice Counseling
- Addition of the post-master's graduate certificate in School Counseling

**The Faculty Senate approved all of the above proposals.**

Dr. Hall asked if there was any other business. Hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Gibb  
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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