

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
University of Missouri-St. Louis  
Faculty Senate  
December 5, 2017  
202 JCPenney**

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Senate Chair, Dr. Pamela Stuerke. Dr. Stuerke asked for approval of the Senate minutes from the meeting on Nov. 14, 2017. The minutes were approved as written.

**Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Pamela Stuerke:**

- Nominations are being accepted for the UM System President's Awards. Dr. Stuerke encouraged the senators to submit nominations for their colleagues, especially if they have recently prepared nominations for campus awards. The deadline for submitting nominations is Dec. 22.
- Dr. Stuerke reminded the deans to submit chili recipes from their college for the Homecoming Chili Cook-off to be held on Feb. 22. As a co-sponsor of this event, the Senate will be asking for faculty volunteers to serve the chili.
- Dr. Stuerke announced that she attended a meeting with the Green Campus Advisory Council on Nov. 30. She explained that this Council initiates environmentally friendly efforts on campus. The Green Campus Advisory Council has requested that a member of the Faculty Senate join them at meetings which are usually held every other month. Dr. Stuerke asked if anyone was interested in serving on this committee, to please contact her.
- Dr. Stuerke reported that the Board of Curators will be on our campus Thursday and Friday. The Senate will be hosting them at the Senate breakfast on Friday. We will highlight UMSL Scholar-Athletes as the topic of the breakfast.
- Dr. Stuerke talked to the Senate about the controversy at the November Assembly meeting. She explained that some Senators shared their concerns with her about the video recording of the Assembly during a vote. To address their concerns, Dr. Stuerke said that the Assembly will use paper ballots for important votes in the future, rather than voting by hand. Also, Dr. Stuerke has asked the IT Committee and the Academic Advisory Committee to discuss the issue of video recording at meetings on campus. She will report back to the Senate about their recommendations.
- Dr. Stuerke spoke to the Senate about the SGA (Student Government Association) referendum that was presented by the students at the November Assembly meeting. The referendum addressed the possibility of disproportionate student representation on the University Assembly and asked for a committee to be created to discuss this issue. Dr. Stuerke explained that the referendum that was presented to the Assembly at the November 14 meeting was not the same referendum that was given to her a couple weeks prior to the meeting by the SGA president. She also reported that, in following up with SGA after the meeting, it was determined that the referendum had not been approved by all of the members of the Student Government Association. It was primarily the work of

the sponsoring student, and as such, was a misrepresentation of SGA. Dr. Stuerke has discussed this with the SGA President. She reported that the SGA has asked that they have an opportunity to deal with this matter internally before it is addressed by the University Assembly. Dr. Stuerke agreed to their request, but explained that this misrepresentation should be addressed by the Assembly since it is a violation of ethics. The Senate discussed the situation and Dr. Stuerke answered their questions. She will keep the Senate informed about this matter.

#### **Report of the Chancellor, Dr. Tom George:**

- Chancellor George encouraged the Senate to nominate their colleagues for the UM System President's Awards. He reminded them that UMSL has had winners in the past. UMSL has many talented faculty members who could be nominated.
- Chancellor George announced that the Board of Curators will be on campus this week. There are six new curators who will be given orientations while they are on campus. Chancellor George announced that the meetings are open and everyone is welcome to attend. He will be giving an UMSL briefing to the board on Friday morning.
- Chancellor George asked Mr. Rick Baniak, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration/CFO, to provide a brief update on the budget. Mr. Baniak reported that the campus started the year with a deficit, but they are working through it and finding ways to cut costs and save money. He explained that the campus is moving from a one-year budget model to a five-year budget model. The goal is to get out of a structural deficit. Mr. Baniak said that he does not expect any layoffs for FY 2018. Mr. Baniak answered the senators' questions regarding the budget.

#### **The Bulletin Report, Provost Kristin Sobolik:**

Provost Sobolik reported that she recently has talked to the deans about making a change to the Bulletin (course catalog). After meeting with the Senate's Academic Advisory Committee, she brought the proposed change to the Senate Steering Committee, and the Steering Committee recommended that she discuss the proposed change with the Senate. Dr. Sobolik explained to the Senate that she proposes to change the Bulletin from its current status as a static document to a "live" document on the UMSL website. By making the document "live," Provost Sobolik explained that the next year's Bulletin could be updated with new courses and programs as soon as the final approval process has been completed, rather than waiting to update the Bulletin once each year. This change will provide students with the most up-to-date course and program information. She explained that an archived version of the Bulletin will always be available on the UMSL website. Provost Sobolik also stated that if a program would not be available until a specific date, Academic Affairs could delay the posting of the program until it is available. The Senate asked questions about the proposed change. A suggestion was made to re-name the Bulletin as the course catalog or something similar. It was suggested that a committee could come up with a good name as an alternative to the Bulletin.

#### **Budget and Planning Committee Report, Dr. Greg Geisler:**

Committee Chair Greg Geisler reported that the committee has not met recently, but he anticipates upcoming meetings early in the next semester. Dr. Geisler reported that the Budget and Planning Committee was asked to review information regarding the compacts for the Strategic Plan. He sent a

message to the committee asking for feedback. Dr. Geisler gathered their input and submitted their comments to the appropriate chairs of the compacts.

### **Faculty Teaching and Service Awards Committee Report, Ms. Diane O'Brien:**

Committee Chair Diane O'Brien announced that the Faculty Teaching and Service Awards Committee is proposing changes to some of the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence. She explained that the reason for the proposed changes is that UM System has changed criteria for some awards over the years, but UMSL has not. The committee recommended that UMSL's award criteria be changed to better align with UM System's criteria. In addition, she explained that there is a "desert" of awards for some faculty (e.g., Emerson Award is awarded to those with four years or more; Gitner Award is awarded to those in first or second year). These proposed changes will provide more opportunities for faculty without the previous restrictions. The proposed changes (in red below) affect the following three awards:

#### **Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Service – Proposed change in Eligibility and Criteria**

➤ **Eligibility** currently reads:

Nominees must be tenured, full-time faculty with seven or more years of service at UMSL.

Eligibility proposed change to read:

Nominees must be full-time faculty at UMSL.

➤ **Criteria** currently reads: Nominees must show evidence consistent with the priorities and goals outlined in the UMSL Strategic Plan, demonstrating:

- The nature and significance of the service performed
- Contribution and/or impact of the service provided to the University, the community (including, but not limited to civic engagement), and/or the nominee's profession

Criteria proposed change to add third bullet below: Nominees must show evidence consistent with the priorities and goals outlined in the UMSL Strategic Plan, demonstrating:

- The nature and significance of the service performed
- Contribution and/or impact of the service provided to the University, the community (including, but not limited to civic engagement), and/or the nominee's profession
- Significant accomplishments or service while at UMSL is expected; however, information about prior service to the community may be included in the nomination.

#### **Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching – Proposed change in Title and Eligibility**

➤ **Title** currently reads:

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Title proposed change to read:

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching to a Tenured or Tenure-Track Faculty Member

➤ **Eligibility** currently reads:

Nominees must be tenured, full-time, faculty with seven or more years of teaching service at UMSL.

Eligibility proposed change to read:

Nominees must be tenured or tenure track, full-time faculty at UMSL.

Chancellor's Award for Excellence to a Non-Tenure Track Faculty Member – Proposed change in **Title, Purpose, Eligibility, and Criteria**

- **Title** currently reads:  
Chancellor's Award for Excellence to a Non-Tenure Track Faculty Member  
  
Title proposed change to read:  
Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching to a Non-Tenure Track Faculty Member
- **Purpose** currently reads:  
This award recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in teaching research, service or other contributions to undergraduate and/or graduate education by individuals who hold full-time (75 percent or higher) academic non-tenure track appointments.  
  
Purpose proposed change to read:  
This award recognizes and honors outstanding achievement in teaching by individuals who hold full-time (75 percent or higher) academic non-tenure track appointments.
- **Eligibility** currently reads:  
Nominee must hold a full-time, academic, non-tenure track appointment and have at least five years of service to UMSL.  
  
Eligibility proposed change to read:  
Nominee must hold a full-time, academic, non-tenure track appointment at UMSL.
- **Criteria** currently reads:  
Nominees must show evidence consistent with the priorities and goals outlined in the UMSL Strategic Plan, demonstrating accomplishment and excellence in one or more areas such as teaching, university or community service, research and scholarship, and other professional activity.  
  
Criteria proposed change to read:  
Nominees must show evidence consistent with the priorities and goals outlined in the UMSL Strategic Plan, demonstrating accomplishment and excellence in teaching.

Senators commended the committee for their work on the proposed changes.

**A motion was made to consider all of the changes at once. The motion was seconded. The Senate voted in favor of all of the proposed changes.**

**Total Rewards Advisory Committee – Wellness Program, Dr. Shirley Porterfield:**

Dr. Porterfield explained that she is currently serving as one of the UMSL representatives on the Total Rewards Advisory Committee (TRAC). Dr. Porterfield stated that she is seeking input from the Senate regarding the wellness program. The TRAC representatives have been asked to gather feedback from their campuses about ways to improve the UM System wellness program. Dr. Porterfield encouraged the Senate to give the program consideration and send any comments, suggestions, or new ideas to her.

### **Intercampus Faculty Council (IFC) Report, Dr. Susan Brownell:**

Dr. Brownell reported the following information regarding the IFC meeting held on Nov. 28, 2017:

- Dusty Schnieders, chief of staff to MO Senate President Pro Tem, is the new Director of Governmental Relations. The IFC was briefed on the UM System government priorities.
- Dr. Brownell reported on the findings from the UM System PricewaterhouseCoopers Administrative Review Rapid Assessment Report.
- Dr. Brownell stated that the search for UM System President's Chief of Staff will soon be announced.
- A UM Safety & Security Summit was recently held. Work will begin on a system wide protocol for responding to emergencies.
- For the first time, IFC will be meeting with the board of curators while they are at UMSL.
- Dr. Brownell reported on a clarification to CRR 310.025 - Extension of Probationary Period. She explained that faculty members are entitled to an extension of probationary period if they take FMLA leave, but they don't have to take it.
- Dr. Brownell reported that a UM committee is working on making recommendations on teaching evaluations. Dr. Jon McGinnis is the UMSL IFC representative on the committee.

### **Curriculum and Instruction Committee Report, Mr. Michael Allison:**

Mr. Allison presented the following program proposals:

- B.S. in Criminology & Criminal Justice (Change)
- Certificate in Health Communication (Change)
- Bachelor of Liberal Studies (Change)
- Traditional B.S. in Nursing Admissions Criteria (Change)
- Accelerated B.S. in Nursing Admissions Criteria (Change)
- Ph.D. in Nursing (Change)
- Minor in Veterans Studies (Change)

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

### **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 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Gibb  
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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