

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
February 23, 2021
Zoom Meeting**

Senate Chair Alice Hall called the Faculty Senate Zoom meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. following the University Assembly meeting. Dr. Hall asked for approval of the Senate minutes from the meeting on January 26, 2021. The minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Alice Hall):

Dr. Hall reported on some of the accomplishments of the Senate committees as follows:

- The Academic Advisory/Assessment of Educational Outcomes Committee has been working with the Teaching Effectiveness Committee. They have also been working with the assessment of faculty online certification.
- The Fall Research Panel reviewed 14 proposals from faculty in various departments and funded them all at the level that was requested.
- The ATP Committee and the NTT Faculty Promotion Committee will be meeting in the next couple weeks to make recommendations on promotions.
- The Research & Libraries Committee has discussed a variety of topics including undergraduate research, the library budget, the Elsevier Freedom journal cuts, and the additional mission of the ORA's economic development and workforce.

Dr. Hall reminded the Senate of the following items coming up in March:

- Nominations for the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence are due on March 5.
- Committee Preference Polls will be e-mailed to full-time faculty in March. She asked the Senators to please consider volunteering to serve on a Senate/Assembly committee.
- Proposed changes to UMSL Promotion Guidelines will be presented to the Faculty Senate in March.

Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Kristin Sobolik):

Chancellor Sobolik had no additional information to report to the Faculty Senate.

Update from the Provost (Dr. Marie Mora):

Provost Mora presented the following information regarding the Academic Program Prioritization (APP):

- The 2020-21 APP Committee is chaired by Dr. Amber Reinhart and includes faculty representing the Faculty Senate parallel units plus three Associate Deans & an at-large faculty member. The APP Committee analyzed quantitative and qualitative data for the 12 departments placed under further review in 2017-18.

- The Committee used the following rubric which was agreed upon by the APP Committee and Provost:
 - Student Success & Program Outcomes
 - External Demand & Opportunity Analysis
 - Research & Creative Works
 - Efficiency & Responsiveness
 - Internal Demand & Collaboration
- Provost Mora announced that a webinar was held on Feb. 19 to address the APP Committee's recommendations and answer some of the questions that were submitted.
- Provost Mora noted that if a program is suspended or eliminated, UMSL is committed to providing adequate time for current students to complete their degrees.
- She explained that major cost-savings from any action may not be immediately apparent due to transition time, but should be realized over time. Some resources may be reinvested into other programs of growth, strength, and excellence.
- Moving forward, the Provost will release annual updates on APP outcomes.
- Provost Mora explained that they will examine ways to streamline APP with other institutional processes, such as five-year academic program reviews.
- Programs not under review now will be reviewed in future APP cycles.
- The final decisions will be made by the Chancellor's Cabinet.

Provost Mora addressed many questions from the senators. She said that additional feedback can be submitted to Academic Affairs or on the APP website: <https://www.umsil.edu/services/academic/review/index.html>

Provost Mora also reported that the Extra Compensation Taskforce will be examining extra compensation for department chairs. Listening sessions are being set up to provide feedback.

Provost Mora has initiated "coffee conversations with the Provost" on a monthly basis in an effort to get to know more faculty members.

Intercampus Faculty Cabinet (IFC) Report (Dr. Jon McGinnis):

Dr. McGinnis reported that the IFC met on February 19 and discussed the following topics:

- CourseShare – the recommendations from the Taskforce are that the primary institution should get 60% of the funding, and the remaining 40% should go to the other participating institution(s). 100% of school credit hours should go to the faculty member at the primary institution. It was further recommended that one instance of Canvas should be used for all campuses.
- Online Teaching Certification – IFC members related a number of faculty concerns about the certification instruction.

- Legislative Update – UM System is monitoring specific legislative bills that may have implications for the UM System and will provide an update when the status of the bills is clearer.
- CR&R updates:
 - Evaluation of the Ability to Work – ready to move forward
 - Consensual Romantic Relations – ready to move forward
- A UM System Code of Conduct for faculty and staff
- The IFC received updates on the following HR topics:
 - Transition Assistance Pay
 - Staff Grievance Policy
 - Performance Management Enhancement
 - Personnel File Documentation
 - Automated Exit Survey

Dr. Hall asked if there was any other business. Hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Gibb
Senate/Assembly Secretary

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