

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
March 23, 2021
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 February 23, 2021. The minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Alice Hall):

- Dr. Hall reported that the nomination deadline for the Chancellor's Awards for Excellence and other faculty awards has been extended till April 5.
- The committee preference polls have been distributed to full-time faculty. Dr. Hall encouraged the faculty to complete their poll and submit it to the Senate Office by the March 26 deadline.
- Dr. Hall announced that the Senate's First Organizational Meeting for 2021-2022 will be held on April 6 at 3:00. She encouraged the senators with continuing terms to attend.
- Dr. Hall announced that the Staff Association recently created a statement condemning and combating racism, xenophobia, and intolerance against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. She explained that the statement is intended to condemn violence and harassment targeting Asians or Pacific Islanders of any nationality in light of recent incidents and widespread increases in reports of this type of violence and harassment. The Staff Association asked if the Faculty Senate would be willing to endorse the statement. Dr. Hall displayed the entire statement and the Faculty Senate discussed it.
A motion was made to endorse the statement and to commend the Staff Association for their initiative. The motion was seconded. All were in favor of the motion.
Following the meeting, a joint statement on behalf of the UMSL Staff Council, Faculty Senate, Student Government Association, Black Faculty and Staff Association, and Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion was distributed to the campus.

Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Kristin Sobolik):

- Chancellor Sobolik said that she absolutely supported the joint statement that was just approved by the Senate. She stated that this joint statement would be very positive for the UMSL community.
- Chancellor Sobolik announced the three winners for the monthly UMSL Hero Awards. The winners are Mr. Sam Wheeler, Ms. Danielle Faucett, and Dr. Lauren Obermark. She reported that she is receiving many excellent staff nominations for the UMSL Hero Award, but she would like to see more faculty nominated for this award.
- Chancellor Sobolik reported that UMSL's academic programs continue to draw high rankings. She listed the following rankings: Undergraduate programs in Political Science, History, and Accounting were rated high nationally in Study.com top 50 list of best degrees. The Doctor of Nursing Practice program was rated #15 on a list of best online BSN to DNP rankings. The Criminology and Criminal Justice Master's Program was ranked #1 nationally. The Supply Chain and Analytics Master's Program was ranked 8th

nationally by Intelligent.com. The Undergraduate Elementary Teacher Prep programs were named among the top programs in the country by the National Council on Teacher Quality. Chancellor Sobolik stated that these high rankings are due to the efforts of outstanding faculty and staff. She thanked them for their hard work.

- Chancellor Sobolik reported that UMSL will be receiving a What's Right with the Region Award from Focus St. Louis. This nonprofit organization recognizes 20 individuals or organizations and initiatives in five categories for their outstanding work and positive impact on the St. Louis region.
- Chancellor Sobolik explained that the policies and practices that UMSL implemented to lessen the impact of the COVID-19 virus on students, employees, and operations continue to be effective. There are currently seven active student COVID-19 cases and four active employee cases. None of those individuals are on campus. Chancellor Sobolik said that the state is expanding eligibility for individual vaccines. Phase 2 includes university faculty and staff which allows them to be eligible to receive the vaccine as of March 29. The general public will be eligible on April 9. She encouraged everyone to get a vaccine. UMSL has hosted two mass vaccination events and is open to partner with the state and county on future vaccination events.
- Chancellor Sobolik reported that Unified Command has been meeting with units to discuss timelines and conditions related to bringing faculty and staff back to campus. It is expected that the Unified Command will share a draft of recommendations in the next few weeks to be discussed with the Chancellor's Cabinet, the Executive Policy Group and the Council of Deans. Chancellor Sobolik stated that UMSL will be responsibly optimistic with the fall schedule.

Update from Academic Affairs (Provost Marie Mora):

- Provost Mora welcomed and introduced the new dean of the College of Business Administration, Dr. Joan Phillips.
- Provost Mora explained that the deadline to apply for supplemental support for COVID-interrupted research is March 26. For more information, contact Dr. Cynthia Dupureur.
- The Extra Compensation Taskforce has been meeting to look at department chair compensation. A report on their recommendations is expected at the next Senate meeting.
- Feedback on the Chancellor's Cabinet recommendations for Academic Program Prioritization is due March 31. The recommendations can be found in the March 16 message from Bob Samples sent via UMSL Communications.
- ATP & NTT Tenure/Promotion panels will be held on April 6 and April 7. For more information, contact Dr. Cynthia Dupureur. The deadline for faculty who wish to request an extension on their tenure track clock is June 1.
- Chancellor's (and other) UMSL Faculty Awards deadline has been extended to April 5.
- Provost Mora announced that a new award has been created called the Department Excellence Award in Faculty Mentoring. A message will be coming out with more details and criteria. This annual award is designed to recognize, celebrate, and reward departments/units at UMSL for their demonstrated excellence in mentoring faculty above and beyond the general expectations, particularly for women, minorities, and early-career faculty. The winning department/unit shall receive a plaque and up to \$3,000 to support faculty development activities in the 2021-22 academic year. Nominations for this award are due on April 30.

UMSL Tenure/Promotion Guidelines Discussion: (Dr. Alice Hall):

Dr. Hall explained that UM System recently made changes to the tenure/promotion regulations at the system level. To keep UMSL's guidelines in compliance with UM System, the UMSL tenure/promotion guidelines need to be updated. Dr. Hall displayed the guidelines document and explained the proposed changes to the Faculty Senate. She reported that the changes have been vetted with the ATP Committee and the Senate Steering Committee. Dr. Hall stated that some of the proposed changes remove reference to paper and binders and make allowances for electronic or virtual voting. The changes also added steps in the process such as college/school committee and provost level. In addition, the response time was changed from seven to fourteen days. The proposed change also allows for a written recommendation from the Provost.

As the Senate reviewed the document, a motion was made to clarify the wording of the unit chair on page 2 of the document. The suggested change was as follows: The dean may appoint a representative should the unit chair not possess an academic rank equal to or higher than that for which the candidates being considered or in cases where the unit chair is the candidate. The motion was seconded. All were in favor of the motion to make the above changes to the Unit Chair section of page 2 of the guidelines document.

The Faculty Senate voted in favor of the entire document with the proposed changes. The document will be forwarded to Academic Affairs with Senate approval. Dr. Hall pointed out that as committees reviewed the guidelines, other potential revisions were identified. Those recommendations will need to be reviewed further at a later date and brought back to the Senate for approval.

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

Dr. Stuerke reported that the IFC met on March 19 and discussed the following topics:

- IT discussion with Beth Chancellor
 - IFC shared issues encountered through the recent IT changes.
 - IT is working on making sure future communication is better.
 - IT is looking at the issues that arise for Apple users.
 - IT is hiring a person for marketing and communication. Plans are for a weekly email to provide information about upcoming changes.
- Title IX Sanctions
 - HR is working on a policy that would provide guidance about Title IX and Equity Resolution sanctions.
 - The intention is to help hearing panels know what is consistent application of the sanctions.
- President Choi
 - Senate Bill 389 – limits revenue; current house bill that would temporarily remove those limits is under consideration.
 - Considering issues around scholarships and enrollment management
 - Considering issues around admissions and multiple campuses
- Digital Accessibility Policy
 - Policies will help protect us if there is ever a complaint
- Course Sharing Recommendations
 - Credit for student hours will go to the professor teaching the course

- Tuition will be 60% for teaching campus, 40% for student's home campus (This will be reviewed after one year.)
- One instance of Canvas will help

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 B.S. in Computing Technology
- Change to the M.A. in History
- Change to the minor in Sociology
- Deletion of the on-line undergraduate certificate in Film Studies
- Deletion of the M.Ed. in Elementary Education with Early Childhood Teacher Certification
- Change to the RN to BSN program of the B.S. in Nursing
- Change to the admissions requirements of the RN to BSN program of the B.S. in Nursing

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

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

- Change to the General Education Requirements
- Addition of the Graduate Certificate in Internet and Web
- Change to the Undergraduate Certificate in Professional Writing
- Change to the Undergraduate Certificate in Creative Writing
- Change to the Museums, Heritage, and Public History emphasis area for the M.A. in History
- Change to the Graduate Certificate in Museums, Heritage and Public History
- Change to the B.A. in Sociology
- Change to the B.S. in Sociology
- Change to the Reading emphasis area for the M.Ed. in Elementary Education
- Change to the Reading emphasis area for the M.Ed. in Secondary Education
- Addition of the Middle Level Education emphasis area for the M.Ed. in Secondary Education
- Change to the M.Ed. in School Counseling
- Change to the graduate certificate in Social Justice in Education
- Addition of the graduate certificate in K-12 Teacher Leader
- Addition of the minor in Sport Management

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)