

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the  
University of Missouri-St. Louis  
University Assembly and Faculty Senate  
November 12, 2013 - 3 p.m.  
202 JCPenney**

The meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by the Senate Chair, Dr. Chris Spilling. Dr. Spilling asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on October 8, 2013. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

**Report of the Chairperson, Dr. Chris Spilling:**

Dr. Spilling welcomed Dr. Betsy Rodriguez, UM System Vice President for Human Resources. He explained that Dr. Rodriguez attended the meeting to provide an update on benefits and will make her presentation shortly.

Dr. Spilling reported that President Wolfe is planning to attend the December Senate meeting. He encouraged all senators to attend.

Chair Spilling commented that the Board of Curators will be meeting at UMSL on Nov. 21-22. The Faculty Senate Breakfast with the curators will be Nov. 22. He stated that he has been working on the program for the Curators. The theme of the program will be UMSL Students and Community Engagement.

Dr. Spilling encouraged the senators to nominate a colleague for one of the UM President's Awards. He reminded them that the deadline for nominations is Jan. 31, 2014.

An update on the UM Press was provided by Dr. Spilling. He explained that David Rosenbaum has been hired as the new director for the UM Press as of Nov. 1. Mr. Rosenbaum is a book author and has more than 15 years experience in the publishing industry.

Dr. Spilling reported that the Office of Student Life has contacted the Senate Office to inform them that Homecoming will be held in February instead of September this year. The students are hoping to involve faculty and staff in events throughout the homecoming week. The students have suggested organizing a type of chili event involving faculty and student participation. Dr. Spilling asked if any faculty members would like to be involved in the planning of that type of event, to please contact the Senate Office.

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

Chancellor George announced that he will be presenting the UMSL Master Plan update to the Curators during their meeting on Nov. 21-22. He presented the Master Plan power point presentation to the Senate. He explained the changes and building additions that are anticipated for the future of the campus and how these changes were driven by the UMSL Strategic Plan.

**Benefits Update, Dr. Betsy Rodriguez:**

UM System Vice President for Human Resources, Dr. Betsy Rodriguez, briefed the Assembly with a power point presentation. She updated the attendees on changes including the rehiring of retirees, health care reform, and other health care benefits. The senators shared their concerns

and questions. The Assembly also applauded Dr. Rodriguez for her efforts in guiding the passage of the recently-approved benefit for sponsored adult dependent coverage.

**Report of the Staff Association, Mr. Jonathan Lidgus:**

Dr. Spilling congratulated Staff Association President, Meg Naes, on the arrival of her baby boy as the newest UMSL family member. While Ms. Naes is on maternity leave, Staff Association Vice President Jonathan Lidgus provided the staff association report.

Mr. Lidgus reminded the Assembly that the results of a recent survey of the staff association indicated that staff members would like to see an improvement in communication throughout the campus. To address that concern, the Staff Association has re-vamped the monthly staff newsletter to keep staff more informed. Meeting locations for the monthly Staff Council meetings have also been changed to encourage more staff to attend. Another goal of the Staff Association is to encourage the staff to become more involved in university traditions such as Mirthday, Homecoming events, and athletics.

Mr. Lidgus reported that he and Ms. Naes attended the Intercampus Staff Advisory Council meeting in Columbia three weeks ago. President Wolfe addressed them and explained how the staff members fit into the strategic plan. President Wolfe explained that staff members throughout the four campuses represent the second largest constituency in the UM System following the students. He plans to identify, invest, and move the staff forward.

**Report of the Student Government Association, Mr. Bennett Felton:**

Dr. Spilling reported that Mr. Felton was sick and not able to attend the meeting. No report was provided from the Student Government Association.

**Budget and Planning Committee Report, Dr. Matthew Keefer:**

Dr. Keefer reported that the committee met on Oct. 30, 2013 to discuss the following agenda items:

- Report from Chancellor
- Strategic Plan & Strategic Hiring Update
- Swimming Team Proposal
- Proposed Draft Budget for FY 2015

Dr. Keefer explained that the committee discussed the details of the following proposal from Athletics and unanimously recommended its approval:

**Swimming Team Proposal:**

One coach

40 student athletes (20 men/20 women)

\$135,000 one- time costs for facilities

\$272,000 annual costs

\$450,000 revenue generation through tuition and campus housing

More details will be provided in future meetings on the budget for FY 2015. The Assembly voted unanimously to approve the Budget and Planning Committee report.

There being no other business, the University Assembly meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

## **Faculty Senate Meeting**

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 4:15 by Senate Chair, Dr. Chris Spilling.

Dr. Spilling did not have any additional comments for the Chair's Report.

Dr. George did not have additional information for the Chancellor's report.

### **Interfaculty Council (IFC) Report, written by Dr. Steve Moehrle:**

Dr. Moehrle provided details of the following topics that were discussed at the IFC meeting:

#### **Faculty Accomplishment System (FAS):**

- FAS replacement underway
- There was a strong preference expressed by respondents for a vendor among the three finalists.
- Contract being negotiated
- Vendor will be announced when contract is finalized.

#### **Collaborative Degrees & Diplomas:**

- Collected rules and regulations modified to allow for joint and collaborative degree programs
- CRR's currently allow for "joint" degree programs
  - Connotes 50/50 participation between institutions
  - Joint UMSL/Wash U Engineering program is example
- CRR's now allow for "collaborative" programs
- Connotes greater than 50% contribution by UM
- There is also a new document that sets forth the process to validate the quality of partnering institutions for collaborative programs.

#### **Other information:**

- Website being launched by UM System setting forth best practices for faculty and staff searches
- Healthcare Reform Update
  - We will not be tracking work hours for graduate students
  - This might turn out to be necessary in future
- Project underway to streamline the academic titles in the system
- Task force being formed to study the system's faculty workload policy

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

Mr. Allison explained the new program proposal for the PPA Graduate Certificate in Policy and Program Evaluation. All were in favor of the proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Martinich  
Assembly/Senate Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate Office)