

**Minutes of the Meeting of the
University of Missouri-St. Louis
Faculty Senate
October 8, 2013- 3 p.m.
402 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 Sept. 10, 2013. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as written.

Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Chris Spilling):

Chair Spilling reported information about the following items:

- The IFC retreat was held on Sept. 23-24. Dr. Moehrle and Dr. Spilling represented UMSL. Dr. Moehrle will provide a full report on the topics of discussion from the retreat.
- Dr. Betsy Rodriguez, UM System Vice President of Human Resources, will attend the November Assembly/Senate meeting to provide an update on benefits.
- President Tim Wolfe is planning to attend the December Senate meeting.
- The Board of Curators will meet at UMSL in November. Dr. Spilling reported that he is working on the program that will be presented to the Curators at the Senate Breakfast.

Report of the Chancellor (Dr. Thomas George):

Chancellor George reported on the following information:

- Chancellor George stated that UMSL's total enrollment is at 16,814 which is a 1% increase over last fall. Student credit hours are up 1%. The Advanced Credit Program grew 7% to 4,250 students. There was an overall increase in nursing and engineering. Graduate student enrollment also increased in business, fine arts and communication.
- Chancellor George updated the Senate on the merger between St. Louis Public Radio (KWMU) and St. Louis Beacon. He reminded the Senate that last year the Budget and Planning Committee voted to endorse the merger with the caveat that no additional general operating budget funds would be required to support the merged entities. He reported that 2.7 million dollars of external funding has been raised for this merger. Chancellor George explained that Curator Goode has also suggested that UMSL partner with MIZZOU's School of Journalism to expand the academic component. Chancellor George has been working with Dean Mills on this emerging media project. He expects the topic to go before the Board of Curators during the November meeting. He will keep the Senate updated of its progress.

Military and Veterans Studies (Mr. Jim Craig):

Mr. Craig was invited to brief the Senate on this new department in the College of Arts and Sciences. He provided the following facts:

- There are 362 veterans currently enrolled - the highest percentage of veterans in the UM System.
- The UMSL Veterans Center was established in December 2012.
- Nearly all veterans are using one of the provisions of the GI Bill.
- “Post-9/11 GI Bill” veterans can pass their educational benefits to their spouse or children.
- Initial data indicates that veterans drop out of UMSL at a greater rate than non-veterans.

Mr. Craig stated that the mission of the Military and Veterans Studies Department is as follows:

The mission of the Department of Military and Veterans Studies at UMSL is to enable success for current and future veterans on campus, and to create research-based curriculum for students who are interested in studying the veteran experience.

An organizational chart of the new department was displayed. Mr. Craig also explained the following goals of the department:

- Establish curriculum so that students will graduate with a nuanced understanding of the military and veteran experience, the role veterans play in our society, and the obligations our society might hold towards this subset of our population.
- Find opportunities to collaborate, teach, and research with faculty across many disciplines.
- Establish rigor in the Army and Air Force ROTC coursework to the level that these courses are worthy of academic credit.
- Enable success for current and future veterans on campus – stay in school and graduate!
- Improve and make transparent the military education credit transfer policies.

Mr. Craig addressed the senators’ questions about the new department. Dr. Spilling thanked him for his presentation.

IFC Report (written by Dr. Steve Moehrle):

Dr. Moehrle provided details of the following topics that were discussed at the IFC retreat in September:

Meeting with Executive VP Academic Affairs:

- Henry “Hank” Foley
- Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering
- Most recently Vice Provost for Research and Economic Development at Penn State
- Spoke on research and entrepreneurship
- Very capable leader / holds great promise
- Great complement to the strengths of President Wolfe

Faculty Accomplishment System:

- FAS replacement project in full swing
- Three candidate vendors demonstrated their product
 - Thomson Reuters
 - Data 180
 - Digital Measures
- Videos of their presentations available on the system website
- Goal is to have a system that will facilitate effective and efficient production of information for
 - Tenure and Promotion packages
 - Grant applications
 - Other
- Let us know your preference as the IFC will have a meeting to express views
- UMSL will appoint a “point” person to work with the vendor with our campus-specific issues

University Relations:

- The UM System actively advocated to help the Governor uphold the veto of the tax cut bill
- This was successful and averted a larger budget problem for the system
- President Wolfe continues his statewide tour of rural towns advocating the importance of higher education
 - To high school students
 - To civic leaders
 - To government leaders

Human Resources & Faculty Benefits:

- Healthcare costs continue to spiral upwards
- Push is for wellness
 - Good for us
 - Good for system financially
 - Reduce one factor!
- Watch for details on high deductible health plan
- Betsy Rodriguez will join us for our November meeting

Affordable Care Act:

- 75% or greater employees must be offered participation in the healthcare plan
- Includes all employment with the University
 - Not just your department
- Tricky for graduate students and research assistants
- \$39 million fine for non-compliance
- Err on the side of offering it

Information Technology:

- Our University has an immense amount of valuable information stored in its computers
- Auditors have for years advised the system to conduct annual information security training
- Hackers are attempting to get into our system as we meet in here
- IFC members listened to the case for annual training and voted to support it
- The system is respectful of your time
 - Will not take long

Physical Facilities Committee Report (Dr. Jennifer Reynolds-Moehrle):

Dr. Reynolds-Moehrle explained that the campus will be undertaking some major construction projects in the next couple of months. She provided details on the following projects:

- **Science Learning Building:**
Construction will begin mid to late October.
The new addition should be completed in the summer of 2015.
The interior renovations should be completed the end of 2015.
- **Recreation/Wellness Center:**
Construction should begin in late November.
The building's opening is scheduled for the fall of 2015.
A groundbreaking event will be held in early December.
- **College of Business Administration Building:**
The building is currently in the design phase.
Construction is scheduled to begin on the first phase of the building in the summer of 2014.
The building should be completed in the Spring of 2016.
- **Parking adjustment summary:**
Dr. Reynolds-Moehrle displayed detailed drawings of how the parking spaces will be affected during construction. The senators asked questions and shared their concerns about handicapped parking and shuttle service.

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

Mr. Allison briefed the senate on the collected rules and regulations for establishing the academic calendar. The academic calendar for 2015-2016 was presented for approval. All were in favor of the 2015-2016 calendar.

Other Business:

Dr. Joe Martinich briefed the Senate on what has been discussed on the Task Force regarding benefits. The Task Force is still being briefed on the complicated area of healthcare issues. Dr. Martinich reported that the Task Force will be open-minded when brainstorming and looking at options. The Task Force will make recommendations for the UM System Benefits Committee. After their review, the recommendations will be sent to the UM System President and Board of Curators for consideration. The target date for the Task Force to provide recommendations is late March.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Martinich
Assembly/Senate Secretary

(Minutes written by Loyola Harvey, Faculty Senate Office)