

**Minutes of the Meeting of the  
University of Missouri-St. Louis  
Faculty Senate  
January 23, 2024**

Senate Chair Sanjiv Bhatia called the Faculty Senate meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. He asked for approval of the Senate minutes from the meeting on December 12, 2023. The minutes were approved as written.

**Report of the Chairperson (Dr. Sanjiv Bhatia)**

- Dr. Bhatia reminded the attendees that the deadline for submitting nominations for Research, Teaching and Service award is due March 1, 2024.
- Elections for Senate department representatives will begin soon for senators whose terms are expiring this summer. The e-mail ballots will be sent in the coming weeks.
- Dr. Bhatia stated that as a co-sponsor, the Faculty Senate invites everyone to attend the Homecoming Chili Feed on Feb. 22 from 11:30 – 1:30. The event continues the tradition of the colleges competing for the best chili and winning the Golden Ladle. The ticket costs are \$6 for faculty/staff and \$5 for students. Proceeds of the tickets will benefit the Triton Pantry. Tickets can be purchased online next week.
  - Dr. Bhatia also reminded the attendees that recipes and volunteers are needed for the cookoff.

**Report of the Chancellor (Chancellor Kristin Sobolik)**

- Chancellor Sobolik announced the January UMSL heroes:
  - Marcia Countryman – Associate Teaching Professor, Accounting
  - Heather Robinson Coburn – Academic Advisor, Arts & Science
  - Alexander Salois – Maintenance Operations
- Chancellor Sobolik stated that the December commencement ceremonies went well. Almost 1,000 students graduated in the Fall. Chancellor Sobolik thanked the faculty who participated in the commencements.
- In the upcoming May commencement, there will be one less ceremony allowing for ceremonies to be on Friday/Saturday instead of Saturday/Sunday
- Chancellor Sobolik announced that UMSL has named a new Dean of College of Business Administration, Shu Schiller, who will be starting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. She also thanked everyone who took part in the nationwide search.
- Chancellor Sobolik thanked the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for their work on the event for Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 15. She also commended UMSL students for all their service projects during that week of service.

**Pulse Survey - Amy Schechter**

- One of the ways we are working to understand the experience of staff is through a short pulse survey conducted twice a year. Pulse surveys allow the university to respond quickly to feedback received and track changes over a relatively short amount of time. This pulse survey has been utilized at UMSL since January 2022. All benefit-eligible staff members can participate in the survey.

- Key Points:
  - 32% response rate
- No raw data, simply looking at favorable/unfavorable responses.
- Next steps – making the Faculty Senate aware of data, what they are doing with the data and what they plan to do with it.
- Beneficial to staff because it is a form of training, and some data will be linked to the metrics of the strategic plan.

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

- Dr. McGinnis reported that the IFC met on Jan. 22 by Zoom with the following agenda topics:
  - Session with President Mun Choi included topics of concern to specific members of IFC
  - A presentation regarding IT Procurement Process
  - Compliance with Federal Policy on TikTok
    - If you have a federal contract, you cannot have the TikTok app on any device, university issued or private, associated with the contract. This includes the devices used to check email related to contract.
  - The Shared Government Report has been finished. It will be available on the Faculty Senate website and IFC website.

Dr. Bhatia asked if there was any other business. Hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Stuerke

Senate/Assembly Secretary

(Minutes written by Allison Belew, Faculty Senate/University Assembly Office)