

MSU Faculty Senate

May Minutes

The MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2005 in the Cheyenne Meeting Room of the Clark Student Center. Senators present included: Arnoult, Sharon; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Coe, Mary Ann; Comello, Robert; Curran, Barbara; Davids, Mark; Guthrie, Paul; Hansen, Chris; Johnson, Tina; Johnston, Chuck; Kaciuba, Gail Lewandowski, Elizabeth; Marty, Melissa; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); McNeely, Tom; Redmon, Bob (Vice Chair); Rhoads, Jon; Scales, Jon; Schuppener, James; Shao, Chris; Slavens, Dawn (Parliamentarian); Stiles, Beverly; Tucker, David (Chair).

Agenda was unanimously approved. April minutes had previously been approved by e-mail.

Current Business:

1. Senate Officer Elections: Members of the 2005-2006 Senate elected its officers for the next academic year.

Chairman:	David Tucker
Vice-Chairman:	Bob Redmon
Secretary:	Stuart McClintock
Treasurer:	Charles Bultena
Parliamentarian:	Beverly Stiles

2. Report of the Intercollegiate Athletic Council (IAC) Representative, Paul Guthrie. Senator Guthrie said that exit interviews with athletes were underway. He also gave an overview of the committee's work over the year. It met three times. Its goal is to serve as a committee on campus that is aware of and has genuine oversight over what is happening in the athletic department. As such, it would routinely be informed about and comment on elements of the athletic program such as Title IX, new sports, facilities, and the athletic budget. Senator Guthrie also gave GPA's, graduation rates, and missed class days for each of the nine NCAA sports at the university. He emphasized that he would be happy to send these figures to anyone interested.

3. COPLAC. Senator McClintock, the Senate representative on the ad hoc COPLAC committee, updated the Senate on MSU's application into COPLAC, The Council on Public Liberal Arts Colleges. Membership in this organization is seen as a recruiting tool, a means to identify MSU among the public universities in Texas, and a way to remain independent from one of the university systems in the state.

The university is fully committed to going ahead with its application for admission into this organization and hopes to be invited to join in 2006. A representative from a COPLAC member university, Dr. Bob Houston, visited the campus on May 2. He toured the campus and met with administrators, deans, and the COPLAC committee. He wanted to serve as a sounding board for questions members of the university might have about the application process. He stated that

MSU was already further ahead in its admission application than other applying universities had been at a similar time in their application process. He also emphasized that faculty members must spread the word about this organization and talk it up among themselves.

4. Calendar for 2005-2006. Chair Tucker proposed a calendar for Senate meetings for 2005-2006. The Senate generally meets on the second Thursday of the month at 3 PM, and the Executive Committee meets on the first Thursday of the month at 3.

5. Emeritus status. The Senate held an e-mail ballot and approved the granting of emeritus status to Jacqueline Cuevas, Martha Harvey, William Hinds, John Kocurko, and Joseph Warndof. The Senate would like to thank each of the retirees for his or her years of dedicated service to the university and would further like to wish all of them well in their retirement.

6. Discussion of issues of interest. Chairman Tucker asked if there were issues that the senators would like to raise that the Senate could consider taking up next year. The following subjects were mentioned as subjects to address.

A. Athletes from certain sports are missing a lot of class because of scheduling of games.

B. Students do not receive meaningful parking tickets when they park in reserved spots.

C. Certain distance education students have difficulty taking the English Usage Exam at one of the designated sites.

D. It is unclear to many of the faculty if the two no-vote policy in the present Tenure and Promotion Regulations is a recommendation to the President, or if the second no-vote means the candidacy stops with the second no-vote.

E. Unforeseen and clear problems with the new Tenure and Promotion Regulations need to be addressed in a timely manner. A committee to address these problems is being formed.

F. Membership in the Faculty Senate. Should the membership of the Senate be limited to faculty members with tenure?

7. Senator Lewandowski informed the Senate about two bills that have passed in the House but have yet to pass in the Senate. In one bill, a student regent will be on the Board of Regents. Adding a student regent will mean that a BOR member appointed by the governor must give up his/her seat because the number of board members is set. In the second, House Bill 1172 states that state tuition funding will stop at 115% of degree plan hours.

Committee Reports:

Administrative Council: (Tucker): This committee met to set the agenda for the upcoming BOR meeting.)

Board of Regents:

Academic Council: (Redmon) See attached addendum.

Enrollment Management: (Stiles) (no report)

Intercollegiate: Alumni: (Shao) (no report)
Student Affairs: (Lewandowski) (no report)

Sharon Arnoult motioned to adjourn. Gail Kaciuba seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart McClintock
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

David Tucker
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Tuesday August 23 in the Apache Boardroom in CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday August 25 in Cheyenne Meeting Room in CSC.