

MSU Faculty Senate

December 2007 Minutes

The MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on December 6, 2007 in the Kiowa Ex-Students Room in CSC. Senators present included Bultena, Chuck; Coe, Mary Ann; Donovan, Tim; Giddings, Greg; Gooch, Roxanne; Gorham, Jim; Harlow, Kirk; May, Marsha (Treasurer); McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); Medford, Ann; Owen, James; Redmon, Bob (Chair); Rincon-Zachary, Magaly; Scmitter, Joel; Stiles, Beverly (Vice-Chair).

The agenda was unanimously approved. November minutes had previously been approved by e-mail.

Current Business:

1. Senator Rincon-Zachary motioned that future academic vice-presidents be hired with the expectation that they will teach at least one section a year so that they may remain in touch with classroom reality. Senator Giddings seconded the motion.

Chair Redmon first said that Dr. Wiedemann had addressed this issue at the Executive Council meeting prior to the Faculty Senate meeting. She stated that she loved teaching but her frequent travel would mean that she would miss a lot of class, which would be unfair to the students. Senator Gorham reported that many faculty members from the College of Fine Arts feel that they are being asked to add ever increasing amounts of administrative duties to their schedule, the result of which is to take them away from their primary duty to the students. There was general consensus from Senators that this situation is occurring in all colleges.

The motion did not pass. Nine opposed it, and three favored it.

Chair Redmon stated that he would discuss the concerns raised by Senator Gorham with both the Board of Regents and President Rogers.

2. Work Load Policy: Vice-Chair Stiles motioned that the Faculty Senate endorse the proposed Work Load Policy. Senator Coe seconded the motion.

At its last meeting, the Faculty Senate rejected the proposed policy for three specific reasons.

(See November minutes for full explanation.) Two of the reasons were clarified to the satisfaction of the departments concerned. The third stumbling block was brought up again. Some Senators feel that a faculty member who directs seven completed Masters theses deserves either release time or more compensation than the \$2,500 being offered. Chair Redmon reported what Dr. Wiedemann said about this at the Executive Council meeting prior to the Faculty Senate meeting. She stated that there was no more money to pay for thesis direction, and she ruled out granting a course reduction, emphasizing that graduate faculty directing theses already receive release time because they teach graduate courses.

Senator Stiles thought that the Senate should endorse the policy because faculty were not paid anything for thesis direction prior to this proposal. Under this proposal, faculty would receive some compensation, even if it is little considering the amount of work that goes into directing theses.

Chair Redmon and Senator Bultena said that each department should have an equitable distribution of theses among graduate faculty so that a few professors do not do all of the work. Those professors who consistently direct a lot of theses will have more research time if the work is more evenly distributed among graduate faculty.

The motion did not pass.

Senator Bultena moved to amend the previous motion. Senator Medford seconded it.

Senator Bultena's motion reads, "While more work is needed to further improve the proposed Work Load Policy, the Faculty Senate endorses it and commends the administration's efforts as a step in the right direction."

The motion passed fourteen to one.

Committee and Other Reports:

1. Administrative Council (Redmon): (no report)
2. Board of Regents (Redmon): (no report)
3. Academic Council (Stiles): (see end of minutes)
4. Enrollment Management (May): (no report)
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Comello): (see end of minutes)
6. Alumni Association Council (Watts): (no report)
7. Student Affairs (Coe): (see end of minutes)
8. Other active committees: none
9. Financial report (May): The Faculty Senate has \$ 1,666.

Closing Items:

1. Old Business
2. New Business
3. Announcements: Chair Redmon stated that a change of plans had occurred and that spring commencement would be at Ligon rather than at the MPEC Center.
4. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Committee Reports:

Academic Council Report

Nov. 13, 2007

1. Faculty Workload Policy
Bob Redmon, chair of faculty senate, testified to the senate's concerns regarding the faculty workload policy. The motion to adopt the draft of the workload policy did not pass at the Nov. faculty senate meeting.
Dr. Wiedemann: How we count various types of courses affects pay. If the proposal is implemented it is a bit more expensive for the university, but at least we'll have a policy that we're following. If this is voted down we will revert to the policy as is.
2. Suspension Policy: Do away with the 12 hr. limit at MSU for suspension regulations to apply.

3. Honor Roll Calculation Proposal: Propose changing the honor roll policy which states that only one physical activity course or marching band course can count in the 12 hrs. for honor roll. Propose changing the honor roll policy which states that developmental courses cannot count toward honor roll (add developmental classes and KNES classes in calculations for honor roll.).
4. The Graduate Council approved a motion to eliminate the requirement that all non-thesis majors require a research paper. In other words, do away with the file paper requirement. Masters students complete a required number of courses and then will have a master's degree. The decision will be left to the departments as to whether to require a file paper.

Intercollegiate Athletic Council Meeting

December 3, 2007

The following report is from the IAC meeting. Charlie Carr was present to summarize a proposal to increase funding for athletics. The funding would come from a proposed intercollegiate athletic fee.

The proposed fee would be \$10.00 per credit hour with a \$120.00 maximum. The implementation of said fee would be in the fall 2009 semester. The reason for establishing this fee would be to generate revenue for the athletics programs without depleting money from the current student activities fund.

As of now, athletics uses approximately \$500,000.00 of the funds generated by the student activity fee. This deduction causes strain on services such as counseling, disability, tutoring, Vinson Health Center, etc. Several of the service areas cannot maintain extended hours or are short of staffing. The athletic fee will free that deficit and allow for strapped areas to begin offering improved services.

A bill to establish a student athletic fee was proposed and discussed at Student Senate. A vote of approximately 30-2 in favor of the bill passed the senate. It will go to the student body for vote. Mr. Carr asked the committee and was advised to address Faculty Senate concerning this issue. He will try for the earliest possible date next semester.

Other topics:

End of season team evaluations:

The IAC will be exploring a new NCAA form that will allow for three separate groups of athletes to be evaluated. Those groups are as follows: graduating students, early out going (leaving the athletic program but not graduating), and the continuing student athlete. The IAC will use the end of season form for interviewing student athletes.

NCAA audit:

Early next year MSU will be anticipating an NCAA audit of its athletic programs.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Comello

Minutes of Student Affairs Council

November 20, 2007

- Budget cuts

- Board of Regents – 5% limit tuition increase
- Working on purchase of 2 church related buildings
- College Connections
 - *Nickels & Dimes* was used as a common read
 - Field trip to museum
- Athletic Fee
 - \$10 per credit hour – Fall 2009, max \$120. This will bring in \$1.2 million. They already receive \$550,000. Thus this will give other areas of university that extra \$550,000

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Coe, D.Ed.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart McClintock
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Bob Redmon
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Tuesday January 8, 2008, in the Apache Boardroom in CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on January 10, 2008, in Kiowa Meeting Room in CSC.