

# MSU Faculty Senate

## August 2008 Minutes

The MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on August 21, 2008, in Dillard 189. Senators present included Black, Alan; Brink, Jan; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Capps, Matthew; Carlston, David; Crump, Martha; Debois, Barbara; Dover, Ernie (Parliamentarian); Fields, Peter; Giddings, Greg; Hallford, Randal; Harlow, Kirk; Hiraide, Suguru; Knox, Michelle; Lewis, Gary; Lockhart, Robin; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); Medford, Ann (Chair); Mills, Dana; Morrison, Gary; Owen, James (Vice-Chair); Redmon, Bob; Schmitter, Joel; Wyatt, Frank.

The agenda was unanimously approved. The minutes of the May meeting had previously been approved by e-mail.

### *Current Business:*

1. The Senate elected officers at its May 2008 meeting for the 2008-2009 year. The 08-09 Senate ratified the following Senators elected in May to serve as officers.

Chair:	Ann Medford, Health Sciences and Human Services
Vice-Chair:	Jim Owen, Business Administration
Secretary:	Stuart McClintock, Humanities and Social Sciences
Parliamentarian:	Ernie Dover, Humanities and Social Sciences
Treasurer:	Chuck Bultena, Business Administration

2. Policy 3.317 Emeritus Status. The Senate examined the proposal that contains changes in existing emeritus status policy. Senator Giddings made a motion to strike the following elements in the proposal: from section A. “at the ranks of associate professor and professor” and in section B “Faculty will have continuously been active in scholarly or creative productivity”. Senator Capps seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

3. On-line evaluations. The Faculty Senate realizes the need for evaluations of professors’ performance in the classroom and values an effective evaluation tool that accurately measures their teaching ability. The Faculty Senate recognizes some benefits and drawbacks of both on-line and in-class evaluation. However, the Faculty Senate also sees that so few students complete on-line evaluations that they cannot be used as an accurate evaluating tool of professors’ teaching ability. Further, professors who teach web courses feel that the present on-line evaluation tool is invalid for these courses.

Treasurer Bultena made the following three-part motion:

The Faculty Senate recommends that faculty not be involved in enforcing or providing incentives for the completion of on-line evaluations

and recommends that the university provide enforcement and/or incentives for student compliance.

The Faculty Senate also recommends that a provision be made for an effective evaluation tool of on-line courses.

Vice-Chair Owen seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

*Committee and Other Reports:*

1. Administrative Council (Redmon): (no report)
2. Board of Regents (McClintock): Secretary McClintock reported to the Board of Regents at its August meeting that salary compression and disparity in salaries among colleges continue to concern the Faculty Senate. He also mentioned that the Faculty Senate is interested in seeing that recycling and the greening of the campus be a priority.
3. Academic Council (Owen): (no report)
4. Enrollment Management (Mills): (no report)
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Black/Comello): (see attached report at the end of the minutes)
6. Student Affairs (Redmon): (no report)
7. Other active committees: none
8. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$ 1,080.88.

*Closing Items:*

New Business:

1. Banner and SSN's. Senator Lewis stated that Social Security Numbers of faculty members and their spouses are accessible on Banner. Several other Senators recounted incidents in which they found SSN's and other personal information in the public domain on Banner.

Senator Harlow made the following motion with a second by Senator Owen:

The Faculty Senate recommends that security issues and access to private information for students, faculty, and dependants be addressed immediately in respect to Banner.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Policy 3.136. After checking with Provost Wiedemann and Human Resources Director Weakley, Secretary McClintock clarified issues about the faculty development leave policy (3.316) that had caused some confusion in the Faculty Senate last year.

If a professor takes off one semester, he/she receives his/her full salary for that semester. If a professor takes off a full year, he/she receives half of his/her annual salary.

The university continues to pay health benefits for a professor whether he/she takes off one semester or a full year.

The university pays retirement benefits (ORP/TRS) based on a professor's gross income.

Therefore, the university pays full benefits for a professor who takes off one semester and half benefits for a professor who takes off a whole year.

Reminder: The deadline for application for faculty developmental leave is **October 1**.

3. Faculty Award: Senators Debois and Crump volunteered to help Chair Medford with tabulating votes for the 08-09 Faculty Award.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:40.

## **IAC Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Minutes by Robert J. Comello

The Intercollegiate Athletic Council met to discuss the proposed student athletic fee and the impact in which it will make for the MSU campus. The proposed athletic fee was present to the student government as a means to obtain funding for athletic programs and freeing up an approximate \$500,000.00 in student activity fees normally absorbed by athletics. The \$500,000.00 can now be used by essential student services. The student's, by a wide majority voted in favor of the proposed student athletic fee.

Dr. Rogers addressed the council saying that the referendum is awaiting approval in Austin but expects that it will be passed.

The implementation of the fee will generate funds that will be necessary to address Title IX and gender equity issues related to this campus. The present focus and goal is to introduce a new female sport and add more opportunities for women to coach and provide other services to women's athletics. There will be other areas of concern; however, this is the most important issue to address.

Mr. Charlie Carr, Athletic Director addressed the council and road mapped a plan for use of student athletic fee funding. A look at the plan follows in order of priority.

### I.1. Bring MSU up to date concerning gender and Title IX issues.

- To do this, MSU would like to establish a women's golf team. This would be a complimentary sport to the men's team and establish the eight women's program in the Lone Star Conference.
- This would be economically feasible.
- Funded through the student athletic fees.
- MSU has an established relationship with the country club, however, there are two alternative sites; Week's Park and Sheppard could be used if needed.

The university will start a search for a coach and hopefully will have that person on board in the spring of 2009. First play will be fall of 2009. There will be approximately 10 to 12 participants. Conference play allows for five members to make up the team. The remaining participants will make up a "JV" team.

2. Fulfill NCAA commitment to hire an assistant volleyball coach.
3. Add an assistant women's soccer coach.
4. Add an assistant women's softball coach.
5. Add a strength and conditioning coach for women's sports.
6. Add an assistant tennis coach.
7. add a JV cross-country team.

- II. MSU does not have a full time NCAA compliance officer. It was recommended that MSU assign one staff member compliance responsibilities without additional duties.
- III. The addition of another counselor to the Academic Support Center. Currently two counselors serve over 300 student athletes.
- IV. Develop a program that will address life skills for student athletes. Focus is on life after sports. An example given was Allen Page, former defensive lineman for the Minnesota Vikings who is now a state Supreme Court justice.
- V. Develop a first year bridge program that would serve every incoming student and ensure a positive start to their college career.
- VI. Upgrades to the entire varsity and recreational fields.
- VII. Potential for future construction of a baseball stadium, locker room, storage, scoreboard, and lights. Note that this is a last thought and items I through VI must be met first.

#### Schedule Reviews:

Dr. Paul Guthrie asked the IAC to consider a means in which a review of athletic schedules could be developed to ease the problems associated with conflicts that occur with student athlete's academic schedules.

#### Varsity Club:

Will be known as the Maroon and Gold club. Letters will be going out to approximately 1100 former athletes with the hopes of reconnecting them to the campus. Activities are in the planning stage and more information will come regarding this.

#### Ligon Coliseum Renovations:

Renovations are slowly progressing on infrastructure improvements. New seats have been installed. Fans will purchase licensing rights to the seats. Revenue obtained from the licensing will go toward further improvements to structures such as shower and locker room facilities.

#### Mustang Athletic Club:

Fund raising efforts are moving forward. Goal for this year is \$125,000.00

#### Football Kickoff Event:

Will be held in the Coliseum. Guest speaker will be Chad Henning.

Women's Kickoff Dinner:

An event specifically for female athletes only. It will be held in the Comanche Suites. Guest speaker will be Charlye O. Farris, the first black woman to pass the Texas Bar Examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart McClintock  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Ann Medford  
Chair of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday September 4, 2008, in the Apache Boardroom in CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, September 11, 2008, in Kiowa Ex-Students Dining Room in CSC.