

# MSU Faculty Senate

## December 2008 Minutes

The MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 p.m. on December 4, 2008, in the Kiowa Ex-Students Room in CSC. Senators present included Black, Alan; Brink, Jan; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Capps, Matthew; Carlston, David; Dover, Ernie (Parliamentarian); Fields, Peter; Giddings, Greg; Knox, Michelle; Lewis, Gary; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); Medford, Ann (Chair); Owen, James (Vice-Chair); Redmon, Bob; Wyatt, Frank; Zhang, Grace. Catherine Prose represented Suguru Hiraide.

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

### *Current Business:*

1. Allen Goldapp updated the Senate on progress in the university's efforts regarding sustainability.

#### A. Recycling:

1. We will continue efforts to expand desk recycling.
2. We have inventoried the current locations picked up by state hospital.
3. Custodial staff is tracking fill rates on trash dumpsters.
4. Fill rates will result in reviewing tipping fees charged by the city.
5. We plan to work with the city to get a tonnage check in the spring. Unfortunately, the paper recycling market is in a slump
6. Part of the problem in implementing more paper recycling is that the State Hospital has been inconsistent in picking up paper.
7. The physical plant has a student assistant, Madeleine Zaehring, who is devoting her time to sustainability. Her work on campus has gotten the attention of Steve Hilton in the Fain College of Fine Arts. He has a strong interest in recycling. Mr. Goldapp met with him to discuss his ideas. He suggested a move-out-day collection. Even though she has had limited time to put this project together, Ms. Zaehring is attempting to do something this semester.
8. The university will be visited by Cooperative Teamwork and Recycling Assistance in January.
9. The university will schedule a visit with American Paper Recycling in the Spring.

B. Bicycle Racks: Madeleine Zaehring and Rich Frank are reviewing potential locations for new bicycle parking.

C. Parking: We are looking at promoting shuttles and the city bus service to reduce traffic flow and parking problems on campus.

D. We are reviewing Energy Performance Contract with Chevron and SECO.

E. We will attend a Carbon Foot Print seminar.

F. We will request using energy savings for sustainability projects.

G. We are examining what other universities are doing about sustainability.

1. The *Knoxville News Sentinel* reports that its city's university released a new energy conservation policy for its main campus and the adjoining agriculture campus in Knoxville. Indoor air temperatures will now be set at 68 degrees for heating and 76 degrees for cooling. Faculty and staff are being told to take home personal portable heaters and refrigerators, to keep their hands off the thermostats, and to keep their office windows and doors shut.

2. The University of Michigan is on its way to becoming a leader in green computing, hoping to save money and the environment. The campus-wide volunteer effort, which officially kicked off in March, involves a number of initiatives designed to save hundreds of thousands of dollars in energy used to power the school's 80,000 desktop computers, half a dozen data centers, and more than 100 server rooms. Teams of more than ninety university students, faculty, and staff are working to purchase more energy-efficient computers and other technological devices, to reduce the number of server rooms on campus, and to get everyone to turn off computers and printers when they are not using them, and to print only necessary documents (U-M save energy).

2. Some faculty members have approached senators about an education incentive program for faculty members.

**Senator Redmon moved that the Faculty Senate recommend to the administration that faculty be offered an education incentive program similar to that available to staff.** Senator Capps seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3. On-line course evaluations. Senators made observations about their experiences in taking students to the computer labs during classes to do on-line evaluations.

Senators who have classes with about twenty-five students and who had reserved a computer lab reported that this system went relatively smoothly and took about fifteen to twenty minutes.

Professors who teach classes with more students than can fit in a lab at one time reported that this system did not work well. Because students in these larger classes had to go to the labs in shifts, professors said that the evaluation process took the whole class period.

There was consensus that spending the entire class period to do evaluations was a waste of valuable instruction time even if response rate improves.

Further one senator remarked that he still received less than fifty percent response rate even though he had spent an entire class period taking his class to the computer lab.

Senator Fields made the following motion that was seconded by Senator Carlston: **the Faculty Senate recommends that classes do not use a system for doing evaluations that requires more than fifteen minutes of class time.** The motion passed unanimously.

Senator Capps asked if every college had to use the same evaluation system. He wondered if a college could use the evaluation system it preferred. The Senate does not know if using more than one evaluation system is possible.

*Committee and Other Reports:*

1. Administrative Council (Medford): (see end of minutes)

2. Board of Regents (Medford): (see end of minutes)

3. Academic Council (Owen): (no report)
4. Enrollment Management (Mills): (no report)
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Black): (no report)
6. Student Affairs (Medford): (see end of minutes)
7. Other active committees: (none)
8. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$550.

*Closing Items:*

1. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:25.

*Administrative Council: October 13, 2008 Ann Medford*

Set agenda for Board of Regents Meeting November 13-14, 2008  
Changes on Hiring Procedures and Policies and Procedures Manual  
Academic Calendar Considerations and Approvals  
Key request approvals

*Board of Regents: November 14, 2008 Ann Medford*

There was much discussion regarding the reasons for small classes.  
Authorization was given for the establishment of an Office of General Counsel.  
The 2009 academic calendar and four-day class schedule was approved for summer.  
The student final drop date was changed.  
Budgets were discussed and approved.  
Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program as an online option with the Master of Science in Nursing degree program was authorized.  
Authorized the maximum number of semester hours required for a baccalaureate degree will not exceed 120 as required by Texas Education Code 61.0515.

*Student Affairs Committee Report: November 18, 2008 Ann Medford*

Board responded positively to presentation from marketing and admitting departments.  
Liberty Bell installation underway and will be completed soon  
Mustang sculpture coming in February  
Student Rally for parking—Thursday 11/20: Parking lots restriped increasing parking spaces by 186. Increased number of shuttles set to run from 11:00 – 2:00.  
Increased referrals of students from faculty members to counseling center for behavioral issues noted this semester.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart McClintock  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Ann Medford  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on January 13, 2009, in the Apache Boardroom in CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, January 15, 2009, in **Dillard 189**.