

MSU Faculty Senate

April 2010 Minutes

The MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on April 8, 2010, in the Kiowa Ex-Students Dining Room in the CSC. Senators present included Brink, Jan; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Capps, Matthew; Debois, Barbara; Fields, Peter; Gorham, Jim; Green, Becky; Knox, Michelle; LaBeff, Emily; Lewis, Gary; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); Masuoka, Jim; Medford, Ann (Chair); Morrison, Gary; Owen, James (Vice-Chair); Patin, Roy; Shao, Jiagao; Schmitter, Joel; Wyatt, Frank.

The minutes of the March meeting had previously been approved by e-mail.

Current Business:

1. Jenny Duncan and the MSU bookstore: Jenny Duncan from the MSU bookstore made her annual report to the Faculty Senate to update faculty about items worthy of note in the bookstore. A most helpful site accessed via the MSU bookstore site is the Faculty Center Network. For example, a professor can see what other texts professors at other universities are using for similar courses. The Barnes and Noble system is piloting renting of texts, but this service does not yet exist at MSU. E-texts have been in existence for three or four terms, and the list of titles is increasing. There are several restrictions placed on using e-texts such as the number of pages that can be copied from a university printer per week or per month. Ms. Duncan reported that e-texts have not been very popular with students. She also emphasized that a percentage of sales comes back to the university for student use.

Senator LaBeff complimented the bookstore manager on the fine job that she and her staff do for the university. Others echoed this sentiment.

2. Review of Policy 2.31: The Faculty Senate examined the proposed revision of the policy that specifies the way key administrators are chosen. Items within this policy include the composition of search committees, how searches can be made, and the role of the university president in the selection process.

Vice-Chair Owen made a motion to discuss the revision. Senator Gorham seconded it. Many senators noted that this policy has extensive revisions that need close reading. Secondly, many senators also noted that the revision streamlines the selection process but also gives wide latitude to the president in picking members of search committees for key administrative positions.

It should be noted that the Faculty Senate received the revised policy the day before its monthly meeting. Because of the number of the significant changes to the policy, Senator Capps said that he felt uncomfortable recommending the adoption of the revised policy without having had time to examine it more thoroughly and to discuss it with colleagues. He motioned to table the motion to discuss until senators had had more time to consider the revision. Vice-Chair Owen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The Faculty Senate will meet in special session on May 6 to reconsider the revision of policy 2.31.

3. Faculty Senate bylaws: The Faculty Senate's bylaws stipulate that the only business that can be conducted at the May meeting is the election of officers for the 2010-2011 year. The senators who will comprise the 10-11 Faculty Senate will vote.

Chair Medford mentioned to continuing senators to consider whom they would like to nominate for the five positions (Chair, vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, parliamentarian). She also said that she would not stand for re-election as chair.

Committee and Other Reports:

1. Administrative Council (Medford): (no report)
2. Board of Regents (Medford): (no report)
3. Academic Council (Owen): (no report)
4. Enrollment Management (Green): (no report)
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Gorham): (no report)
6. Student Affairs (Medford): (no report)
7. Sustainability (McClintock): (no report)
8. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$318.

Announcements:

Senator Patin announced that the Dillard College of Business had gained AACSB accreditation. He mentioned that becoming accredited by this organization is a very difficult, time-consuming process, but it confers enormous credibility and prestige to the Dillard College of Business.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05.

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 Thursday, April 29, 2010, in the Apache Board Room of CSC.

The current Faculty Senate will meet in special session at 3 PM on Thursday, May 6, 2010, in Dillard 189.

The next regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3:30 PM on the same day and in the same location as the special session. This meeting is for senators on the 2010-2011 Faculty Senate.