

# MSU Faculty Senate

## November 2011 Minutes

The 2011-2012 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on November 10, 2011, in Dillard 189. Senators present included Azouz, Idir; Bernard, Guy; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Debois, Barbara; Duff, Jeremy; Griffin, Terry; Hammer, Margaret; Henschel, Don (Parliamentarian); Johnston, James; Jun, Nathan; LaBeff, Emily; Lewis, Gary; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); McDonald, Terry; Paddack, Ted; Patin, Roy; Roberts, Kathy (Vice-Chair); Smith, Brandon; Stiles, Beverly; Williamson, Anne-Marie; Wood, Julie.

Jon Scales represented James Masuoka, and Donna Wright represented Beth Veale.

The agenda was unanimously approved.

The minutes of the October meeting had been approved by e-mail vote.

Vice-Chair Roberts presided over the meeting because the Chair was at the Board of Regents' meeting.

### *Current Business:*

*1. Jenny Denning and Patrick Weaver from the bookstore:* Jenny Denning reports that the bookstore has already received 75% of spring textbook adoptions. She stated that rental texts have become popular among students and emphasized that the earlier texts are submitted to the bookstore, the greater the availability of rental texts is. Rentals cannot be made for older editions or customized texts.

She also mentioned that electronic books are now available for many texts and that they are about half the cost of the hard copy text.

Special course packs can be made of texts of which only small sections are used.

She also urged professors not to order books that they will not use.

*2. Discussion regarding parking fees:* Last year, the Faculty Senate proposed implementing a staggered parking fee scale based on salary by which those earning less than \$30,000 would pay a reduced parking fee. The Board of Regents did not implement this proposal, and, at present, all faculty and staff pay the same amount for a standard parking spot on campus.

Senators on the ad hoc Parking Committee wondered if the Faculty Senate would like to revisit this issue. The Faculty Senate would like to meet with the Staff Senate to see if it would like to make a joint proposal regarding graduated parking fees based on salary.

*3. Discussion regarding Tobacco Free Campus Policy:* In order to help reduce tobacco use on campus, Secretary McClintock suggested that faculty include the university's tobacco-free policy on their syllabi.

*4. Discussion regarding Academic Dishonesty Policy:* Provost White is in the process of reviewing all university policies. She has asked the Academic Appeals Committee to examine the Academic Dishonesty Policy. Senator Stiles is the point person from the Faculty Senate on

this committee. Senator Stiles has distributed the policy to members of the Faculty Senate and has asked Senators to send her comments about the policy.

One issue the Academic Appeals Committee will consider is whether the Academic Appeals Committee should hear instances of academic dishonesty or if a new committee should be formed to deal with it. Senators Stiles reported that the AAC had heard several academic appeals but only one case of academic dishonesty in the last year.

Senators are very concerned by the amount of academic dishonesty on campus. It seems that most incidents of cheating are handled by professors within their departments. Generally the professor sanctions the student, and the student accepts the sanction. According to policy, the professor should then report the incident to his/her chair, who then informs his/her dean, the Dean of Students, and, if applicable, the Graduate Dean and the Registrar. It seems that this reporting procedure does not always occur, which means that the dean of students, who is the person who would see repeat offenders, does not receive the information necessary to see patterns of cheating.

Treasurer Bultena wondered if an automated form similar to the on-line Academic Referral Form could be set up to make the reporting more efficient.

Senator LaBeff stated that students needed to see that students who cheat are punished. She would like the Faculty Senate to spend an entire meeting brainstorming about the cheating issue. Senator Jun informed the Faculty Senate about a grading system that his chair had mentioned. Students who cheat receive the grade of F-D on their permanent transcript. The F-D grade means that a student received an F for academic dishonesty. Senator Jun's chair stated that academic dishonesty stopped when students knew their permanent record would have reporting of cheating. Senator Duff thought more students would appeal their sanctions if this grade were instituted.

Just before this meeting, Senator Stiles sent out the comments she had received about the Academic Dishonesty Policy. Senators will review these comments and talk to colleagues further about this issue. The Faculty Senate will revisit this subject at a future meeting.

*5. Faculty Award Voting Update:* The first of two rounds for the Faculty Award is in progress.

*Committee and Other Reports:*

1. Administrative Council (Owen) (no report)
2. Board of Regents (Owen): (no report)
3. Academic Council (Roberts): (see end of minutes)
4. Enrollment Management (Masuoka):
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Paddack): (no report)
6. Student Affairs (Williamson): (no report)
7. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$1,269.

*New Business:* none

*Old Business:* none

*Announcements:*

1. Senator Duff mentioned that professors can upload their syllabi directly onto their Faculty Profile page, eliminating the necessity of filling in the form separately. Professors must be sure that the syllabus has all of the fields required in the Faculty Profile, including texts' ISBN numbers.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart McClintock  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

Jim Owen  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 in the Apache Board Room of CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, December 1, 2011 in Dillard 189.

**Minutes of the Academic Council meeting: Vice-Chair Roberts**

1. The title for the International Education program was changed to International Programs
2. Change of course prerequisites, effective Spring 2012:
  - a. BIOL 4911, 4912 4913. Independent Study in Biology
    - i. From: a major in the Department of Biology and consent of the college dean.
    - ii. To: A written proposal must be approved by the department chair prior to registration.
  - b. BIOL 5911, 5912, 5913. Independent Study in Biology
    - i. From: As above
    - ii. To: A written proposal must be approved by the department chair prior to registration.
3. Room assignments for Distance Education Courses
  - a. No need to assign classrooms for courses that will never meet face-to-face, to include these courses

- b. Rooms must be scheduled for courses where International Students are enrolled. There is a requirement that these students meet with faculty a certain number of times per week (actual numbers not known at the time of the meeting)