

MSU Faculty Senate

September 2011 Minutes

The 2011-2012 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on September 8, 2011, in Kiowa Ex-Students room in CSC. Senators present included Bernard, Guy; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Callahan, Tom; DeBois, Barbara; Duff, Jeremy; Griffin, Terry; Hammer, Margaret; Henschel, Don (Parliamentarian); Johnston, James; Jun, Nathan; LaBeff, Emily; Lewis, Gary; Masuoka, James; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); McDonald, Terry; Owen, James (Chair); Paddack, Ted; Patin, Roy; Roberts, Kathy (Vice-Chair); Smith, Brandon; Stiles, Beverly; Veale, Beth; Wood, Julie.

Jan Brink represented Senator Azouz. Juan Ibarra attended as a representative from the Staff Senate

The agenda was unanimously approved.

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

Current Business:

1. Chair Owen asked two new senators to introduce themselves. Beverly Stiles replaces Michael Vandehey and is Professor of Sociology. She has been at MSU since 1999 and has served on the Faculty Senate in the past as Vice-Chair. Barbara DeBois is replacing Francis Powell. She is Chair of Dental Hygiene and has been at MSU since 1983. She has also previously served on the Faculty Senate.

2. *Faculty Award.* All colleges have nominated their candidate for the Faculty Award. Former Vice-Chair David Carlston will conduct the electronic voting. There will be two rounds. In the first round, faculty members must vote for two candidates for their vote to be counted. The winner will be announced at the December graduation.

3. *Piper Award.* Faculty members from colleges that nominated a candidate will submit a statement of teaching philosophy and a CV to the Chair of the Faculty Senate, who will then distribute this information electronically to senators. At its October meeting, the Faculty Senate will recommend one candidate among the nominees to Dr. Rogers to be the university's candidate for this award. The Minnie Piper Stevens Foundation chooses ten winners in the state of Texas, each of whom will be recognized with a \$5,000 prize.

Committee and Other Reports:

1. Administrative Council (Owen) (no report)
2. Board of Regents (Owen): (no report)
3. Academic Council (Roberts): (no report)
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 \$219. Treasurer Bultena mentioned that Dr. Rogers has authorized the transfer of \$1,300 to the Faculty Senate's account to support its dues to the Texas Council of Faculty Senates and travel to Austin for a senator or two to the TCFS conference in October.

8. Budget Oversight Committee (Owen): This committee will continue to meet during the year.

9. Parking Committee: Senators Veale, Lewis, and Williamson volunteered to serve on this committee formed by Chief of Police Williams. They have not yet met.

Announcements:

1. Senator Roberts stated that the QEP Committee was continuing to meet in preparation for the SACS visit. She updated the Faculty Senate about the results of the QEP survey. Students would like to work on the children's museum. Faculty voted for the student forum. Parents voted for service learning.

2. Members of the Executive Committee passed along information from the issues they had shared with Dr. Rogers the previous week. Dr. Rogers had asked to speak to the Executive Committee in order to discuss the budget and also items of concern that senators had raised during the August Faculty Senate meeting.

Chair Owen first shared information about the budget. He will send an electronic version of the budget agreed upon at the August Board of Regents meeting to all senators.

Chair Owen also said that Dr. Rogers had several building and renovation projects lined up whose cost is about 25 million dollars. Dr. Rogers hopes to pay for these projects primarily through donations and from freeing up money from quickly paying off Dillard. Significant donations totaling about seventeen million are already promised.

Responding to a query from the Faculty Senate at their August meeting, Dr. Rogers explained to the Executive Committee how the funds from the sale of the Harvey house would be used. The Harvey family requested that the funds be used to help students financially. To that end, the Board of Regents set up a fund whose proceeds would be used to help students with particular needs, such as funding the UGROW projects between students and faculty members or for study abroad. Dr. Rogers estimates that the fund of about \$800,000 will generate approximately \$30,000 a year.

In light of the price tag for the annual faculty-staff party (\$25,000-30,000), Dr. Rogers asked the Executive Committee about either cancelling the party or simplifying it to reduce costs.

Members of the committee thought that faculty and staff would understand that the savings garnered from not having this kind of party were in the best interests of the university and would be a quick and easy way to reduce the budget by a large sum of money. Having simpler, lower key kinds of parties is up for discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40.

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 Thursday, October 6, 2011 in the Apache Board Room of CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, October 13, 2011 in Kiowa Ex-Students room in CSC.