MSU Faculty Senate
February 2012 Minutes

The 2011-2012 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on February 9, 2012, in Kiowa Ex-Students room in CSC. Senators present included Azouz, Idir; Bernard, Guy; Bultena, Charles (Treasurer); Duff, Jeremy; Griffin, Terry; Hammer, Margaret; Jun, Nathan; LaBeff, Emily; Lewis, Gary; McClintock, Stuart (Secretary); McDonald, Terry; Owen, James (Chair); Paddack, Ted; Roberts, Kathy (Vice-Chair); Smith, Brandon; Wood, Julie.
Gary Morrison represented James Johnston. Juan Ibarra from the Staff Senate, and Brittany Cunningham from the *Wichitan* attended the meeting.

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

Current Business:

1. *University technology issues.* Mike Dye, Chief Information Officer, updated the Faculty Senate about technology on campus and addressed several questions the Faculty Senate had about technological issues.

Mike Dye began with some general comments about developments regarding technology issues on campus.

- In the past, each college had to get funding for technology in its building. This will now be a university issue.
- All technology in classrooms is being replaced on a graduated basis in the near future at a university cost of about two million dollars.
- Deans will inventory and see what's needed. Buildings with the greatest needs such as Bolin and Fain will receive priority.
- The goal is to have universal equipment so that computers will all be similarly equipped and will work the same way.
- The university will expand wireless capability because of its importance in classrooms. Expansion costs have yet to be determined, and no date has been set for implementation.

Mr. Dye then answered a series of questions that the Faculty Senate had gathered and sent to him before the meeting.

1. Whom do faculty members contact when there is a problem with technology in the class?

- The most efficient way is to e-mail helpdesk@mwsu.edu.
- Faculty member can also call the helpdesk at 397-4278, where a message is forwarded to Jim Hall.
- Before 8am and after 5pm, faculty member can call 397-4527, and a message is forwarded to a technician on call.

- This information will be put on classroom podiums with the installation of the new equipment in each classroom.
- Mike Dye emphasized that projectors do not have universal bulbs, and it is the responsibility of each college to stock its own bulbs.

2. What can be done to provide faculty access to Skype yet maintain campus security?

- At the moment, use of Skype on campus presents a security issue and cannot be used. Mike Dye stated that alternatives are possible and that there are two video classrooms on campus.

3. With new limits on e-mail, what information must faculty members keep because of freedom of information act? For how long must information be kept?

- Auditors state that all e-mails must be kept for three years plus the current year. Some colleges may have separate guidelines. Mr. Dye suggested that faculty members check with their dean.
- Some on campus archive their e-mails monthly and then annually.
- Each faculty member is allowed 800 MB in e-mail file. If a faculty member is over 400 MB, he/she will receive an e-mail informing him/her about limit approaching.
- Even if e-mails are removed from delete box, they still remain on university hard drive for another twenty-one days in order to be able to retrieve mistakenly deleted files.

4. Why does webmaster have to know faculty member's password when changing it?

- Mr. Dye understands that faculty members want to have password security but said this was a question for the webmaster.

6. Does throttling of video we use for our classes still occur?

- Throttling should not occur with any wired port.
- With wireless, throttling still occurs, such as when students download Netflix in the dorms.
- Mr. Dye suggested that professors download any videos for classroom use on their office computers before using them in class. The download is then on the university hard drive and can be played on a classroom computer without any or with much less buffering.

7. Why was Pandora Radio blocked from office computers?
- It was a cost issue.

8. Why can't faculty put programs on computers in classrooms they teach in even when they have the ability to put the same programs on their office computers e.g., Silverlight?

- If faculty member wants something, contact IT, and they will help.

9. Is there a way to text students without revealing our own phone number?

- Not at the moment. This will be part of the new portal project.

10. When are we going to be able to podcast easily? Faculty are purchasing their own space to host their podcasts.

- This is under webmaster's bailiwick.
- There are production packages IT is looking at.

11. How can we access our computer files while at home?

- This can be done via a Virtual Private Network (VPN) that the university has. The university has enough space for about 100 users at a given time. If you would like access, contact Mike Dye or Jim Hall.
- Getting a VPN that can accommodate more users is in the works.
- Mr. Dye warned that the use of drop box has some security issues.

12. Are there proprietary sites that faculty can use so that only their students can access necessary information?

- While this is the webmaster's bailiwick, Mr. Dye suggested using Blackboard.

13. The director opened the floor for comments or further questions.

- Senator Smith asked if having a "Technology FAQ" page might be set up to answer repeated questions about technology issues on campus. Mr. Dye thought that this suggestion was very good and will look into developing such a page.

- In response to a question about updating one's personal computer, Mr. Dye stated that the IT office has the right supply the latest version of Microsoft Office to employees. Call the helpdesk, and a CD can be made quickly.

- There is some frustration among graduate students who have late evening classes in Dillard but have no access to an open computer lab, despite paying a computer use fee. Mr. Dye stated that there were five open computer labs on campus, but that only Clark and Moffett were open late because of cost issues. If other labs need to be open to accommodate students, he is willing to make any necessary changes.

- Senator LaBeff wanted to compliment the director about the quality and efficiency of the work that his department does on campus. Several senators echoed that remark.

2. *Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting with Dr. Rogers on January 30, 2012*

1. Tuition & Fees for 2012 – 13 academic year

There is pressure from HECB and (to some degree) from MSU Regents to hold tuition and fees at current levels.
Dr. Rogers plans to make the following recommendations at the next Board of Regents meeting:

- Increase in Distance Education fee from $30 to $40 per credit hour, noting that we currently waive athletic, recreation center and health center fees for DE students.
- Increase fee for students who repeat a class for the third and subsequent times from $100 to possibly $130 per credit hour. MSU receives no state reimbursement for these students, and our fee will continue to be among the lowest in Texas, even with this increase.
- Increase the out-of-state premium from $30 to $50 per credit hour.
- Increase the Tier II international premium from $175 to the $225 - $250 per credit hour range, since MSU receives no state reimbursement for students in this program. The increased rate will still keep MSU fee below the state average for this fee. To collect state reimbursement, these students must pay full out-of-state rate of $400 per credit hour.
- Possible across the board increase in tuition in the range of 3.9%.

2. The university plans to increase its international recruiting efforts more toward wealthier countries (e.g., China, South Korea, Vietnam, and others).

3. There is increased legislative and HECB pressure to move MSU into a university system. Texas Tech system may be the most attractive option.

4. HECB is evaluating distance education programs with an eye toward possibly reducing the number throughout the state. Universities with strong distance ed programs in specific areas would become the sole source (or maybe one of the limited sources) for those programs within the state. Other universities would continue to offer face-to-face programs that meet HECB standards but would have limited or no distance ed option.

Committee and Other Reports:
1. Administrative Council (Owen) The primary objective of the AC meeting was to formalize the recent changes in responsibilities among the vice-presidents. Because of their length, the minutes of the meeting are not attached. The minutes are available under minutes in the President's Message link on the MSU homepage.)
2. Board of Regents (Owen): (The Chair will attend the BOR meeting on February 15 and 16 and will present a summary of the Faculty Senate's activities.)
3. Academic Council (Roberts): (see report at the end of the minutes)
4. Enrollment Management (Mills): (no report)
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Paddack): (no report)
6. Student Affairs (Williamson): (no report)

7. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has $544.

Announcements:

Chief of Police Williams would like to remind Faculty that if they have not already done so, they need to go to the MSU Police web page http://police.mwsu.edu/ and click on the MSU Alert icon. They need to read the directions and then click on "Log in". If they want to receive emergency notifications via their cell phone, they MUST do this.

Due to the new state law going into effect, all faculty, staff and students were purged from the system on January, 10, 2012. New accounts utilizing the faculty members preferred email account were established according to the new Texas law. The faculty member will need to follow the precise directions on the above listed link. They can they add their cell # to receive the emergency text messages. This will be a process that has to be repeated every year.

Faculty can contact Chief Williams at **dan.williams@mwsu.edu,** Office (940)397-4239, or Fax (940)397-4055.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart McClintock   James Owen
Secretary of the Faculty Senate   Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, March 1, 2012 in the Apache Board Room of CSC.
The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, March 8, 2012 in Kiowa Ex-Students room in CSC.

Notes from the Academic Affairs meeting January 18th 2012

1. Drop in enrollment in Spring 2012, but we graduated more students in December than ever before
   - A Task Force is being put together to look at ways we might improve enrollment and retention her at MSU.
   - Looking for members from Academic and Student Affairs committees, Enrollment Management, and representatives from student body and faculty.
2. Discussed student's on scholarship and their ability to use other sources for books than our bookstore
   - Students get access to scholarship monies after they are applied to tuition and fees
   - Some students get book vouchers and can only use that voucher at our bookstore
   - Barnes&Noble marks books up 25% over publisher's price

3. Lots of discussion about the effect of Texas Public Policy Foundations proposal to THECB advocating "Seven Breakthrough Solutions" that advocate a business-style, market driven approach to higher education.

   See web-site: http://texashighered.com/7-solutions
   - Dr White is attending a session at the coordinating board where the primary author of these 7 solutions will speak to the provosts.
   - All faculty are encouraged to become familiar with these ideas, and the politics surrounding how they may be implemented. More to come!
4. Undergraduate and Graduate course catalog changes were discussed and approved. All changes minor

Respectfully submitted
Kathy Roberts, RN, DNP