

**MSU Faculty Senate
November 2021 Minutes**

The 2021-2022 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on November 11, 2021 via Zoom.

Senators Present:

Andrea Bennett, Charles Bultena, David Carlston, Sarah Cobb, Eduardo Colmenares-Diaz, Mary Draper, Catherine Gaharan, Leah Gose, Tina Johnson, Erica Judie, Tammy Kurszewski, Marcos Lopez, Christina McIntyre, Kelly Medellin, Karen Moriarty, Kimberly Onstott, Michael Olson, Morgan Page, Jon Price, John Schulze, Beverly Stiles, Chris Vivio, Rebecca Young, Tiffany Ziegler

Guests:

Guests: Leigh Kidwell, Ruben Gonzalez, Jamie Wilson

Call to order: 3:04 PM

Housekeeping:

Approval of Agenda:

- Dr. Moriarty recommended that Leigh Kidwell be moved up in the agenda to review her policy. There were no objections.
- Julie Gaynor has pulled the Social Media Policy. Thanks for input from faculty across campus – very meaningful feedback. Most had to do with adding a layer of unneeded bureaucracy and likely inability of Public Affairs office to manage to the point of approval, providing required training, etc.

Approval of Minutes from October 2021 Meeting:

- Dr. Tiffany Ziegler made a motion to approve the October minutes with an adjustment that Dr. Kimberly Onstott be added to the attendance, and Dr. Sarah Cobb seconded.

New Business:

1. Policy Reviews and Approval – Dr. Moriarty

There is a flow chart that shows faculty how policies are approved. The flow chart is being revised. The flow chart currently shows that policies go to stakeholders and campus community at the same time for a 15-day review process, but it should go to the stakeholders first. There is a new software program, *PowerDMS*, that houses all MSU policies. The approval process will eventually occur through *PowerDMS* and it will track where the policy has been and where it's going in the approval process.

2. OP 22.01 Office of Audit Services Operation (new) – Leigh Kidwell

Leigh previously reported directly to the Board of Regents, but because TTU has their own Office of Audit Services, she will now report to Kim Turner in Lubbock. The updated auditing services operation policy lays out the structure of reporting that Leigh will practice as part of

the TTU system and emphasizes objectivity. All of the component institutions in the TTU system have the same policy. Dr. Carlston asked for clarification that the policy would be sent out to campus for a 15-day review for comments before final approval by admin. Leigh said that it will go out in December.

3. Replacement for Morgan Page

Morgan Page has been awarded the Carnes Fellowship and will be on sabbatical for the spring 2022 semester. Per the current Faculty Senate Constitution, the Dean of Prof. Page's college will appoint a replacement for the remainder of Prof. Page's senate term. The Faculty Senate will vote for the position of secretary during the December 2021 meeting.

Current Business:

1. Update on Covid – Dr. Moriarty

Active Covid cases continue to decline with an “average daily new cases” in Wichita Falls at 14; positivity rate is 4.8% (data from 11/10/21). The percent vaccinated with at least one dose 46% (compared to 62% of Texans).

2. December 2021 Commencement

Commencement is on December 11th at Kay Yeager Coliseum. Faculty will now report to the back hallway in MPEC since they never used the rooms assigned. Faculty “supposed” to report at 9 am, ceremony starts at 10 am. Dr. Bultena mentioned it's best to get there early because of construction this year and parking will be limited. Faculty can park in the back area of the MPEC by the hallway we will stand.

3. Values Journey

The values identified by the MSU community are: “People-centered, integrity, visionary, community, connections”. There was good participation in town halls on campus. One more town hall this evening on Zoom, 7 pm.

4. Faculty Award

When all the nominees have been received, a poll will be sent out to the faculty for a vote as in the past. The recipient will receive a plaque and a monetary award from the President's office.

5. Presidential Search

The position is officially open (info sent out via MSU Postmaster last week). There is a URL about the search criteria and a position prospectus: <https://msutexas.edu/presidential-search>. If you know any potential candidates, encourage them to visit the website. The search is confidential in an effort to encourage qualified candidates to apply. Some faculty expressed concern about a confidential search and would like the faculty to have the opportunity to meet with potential candidates. Once a finalist is named, public notice will be given 21 days in advance of any planned action to hire. This will allow for the community to comment. The deadline for applications is January 3, 2022.

Unfinished Business:**1. OP 02.42 Social Media Policy – Julie Gaynor (pulled from agenda)****2. Faculty Focus Survey – Dr. Moriarty**

- Lecturer positions: Do we want to recommend an increase in pay at least to match what Vernon College is paying? There was discussion of what Vernon College lecturer and instructors are making. Faculty were very surprised that it seems Vernon College lecturer and instructor positions make more than MSU faculty. Dr. Moriarty suggested she go back to Dr. Camacho and request some investigation be done.
- Salaries commensurate with COL: Now that cost of living is exponentially increasing, do we want to recommend a bigger percentage for 2022-23? Faculty agree that it is needed.
- Administrative “bloat”: Not sure what we can do here. Dr. Bultena asked if we can see if administrative bloat is continuing to occur this year. Dr. Carlston said that the administration had made some changes in the way those items are reported making it more difficult to pull data from the documentation available. Morgan Page mentioned that we might address administrative bloat concerns by reinstating the talks that Dr. Johnston used to hold with faculty weekly or biweekly so that we can ask questions about administrative bloat and other items of concern. Dr. Moriarty reminded the senate that Dr. Johnston met with the senate while in his position of Provost. Dr. Carlston suggested that administration provide an updated organizational chart to see if there are overlapping services with TTU so that we can see if we have administrative positions that we no longer need. Dr. Moriarty will discuss these issues with Dr. Camacho and invite him to the next senate meeting.

3. Workload Task Force/Policy – Dr. Moriarty

Documents sent out before today include:

- Faculty Compensation Study (Evergreen Report)
- Faculty Senate Resolution on Workload
- Dean’s Response to Resolution
- Hinchman’s Presentation

How do we move forward on the workload issue? Faculty discussed that equity issues have not been resolved, including chairs not being properly compensated. Dr. Carlston said that we should start with the workload resolution, and stated that the IT liaison never materialized. Electronic forms for registration haven’t been completed. Dr. Moriarty will bring these issues to the attention of Dr. Camacho.

4. Faculty Senate Bylaws Revisions – Dr. Moriarty

Draft versions of the Constitution and Bylaws were sent to all senators to share with their colleagues. No feedback has been received. Dr. Bultena said that he sent it out to his college and got no responses. Dr. Moriarty will now send the revised Faculty Senate Constitution and newly created Faculty Senate Bylaws to Dr. Camacho and Barry Macha for review and feedback.

Committee and Other Reports:**1. Administrative Council: Dr. Moriarty**

No report. Has not met.

2. Academic Council: Dr. Lopez

No report. First meeting was introductory and no business was conducted.

3. Budget Oversight Committee: Dr. Ziegler

They met last month and are meeting again Tuesday, 11/23. There will be a report following that meeting.

4. Enrollment Task Force: Dr. Moriarty

This task force is broken up into several smaller groups. They are charged with how to increase enrollment without spending more money. The sub-group will continue to meet weekly (Co-Chairs are Jeff Stambaugh and Leann Curry) and are currently finalizing a list of “actionable items” – actions that could positively impact enrollment in fall 2022.

5. Leadership Advisory Council: Dr. Moriarty

First meeting was held. Mostly introductory and selection of a Chair (Shelly Sweat). This group will meet once per quarter with the role to be advisory to the President.

6. Treasurer’s Report: Dr. Ziegler

No report.

7. Faculty Senate Bylaws Revisions - Ad Hoc Committee: Dr. Moriarty, Dr. Lopez, Prof. Page, Dr. Ziegler, Dr. Judie, Dr. Onstott, Dr. Bennett, Dr. Kurszewski
(Faculty senate bylaws revisions were discussed in “Unfinished Business.”)**8. Other committee reports**

Mary Draper had information about the Centennial Celebration. One of the subcommittees is trying to create a centennial beer, an ale, and hopefully it will come to fruition. The celebration will take place on January 27, 2022. There will be a second celebration in September on Founder’s Day. Look for everything to be branded with the Centennial Celebration logo.

Dr. Chris Vivio mentioned that the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee has still not

contacted Corey Robinson from Music and he is supposed to be serving on that committee. Dr. Lopez will follow up with Intercollegiate Athletics Committee and Student Affairs Committees to determine if added Faculty Senate members are being contacted as they should be.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38pm. Dr. Beverly Stiles made a motion to adjourn and Dr. Chuck Bultena seconded. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Submitted,
Morgan Page,
Faculty Senate Secretary

Karen Moriarty,
Faculty Senate Chair

Next Meetings:

The next **Executive Committee meeting** will be at 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 2 via Zoom.

The next **Faculty Senate meeting** will be at 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 9 via Zoom.