

**MSU Faculty Senate
November 2022 Minutes**

The 2022-2023 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on November 10, 2022, in Fain College, Room D202

Senators present:

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| Salim Azzouz | Bob Comello | Karen Moriarty |
| Charles Bultena | Catherine Gaharan | Jonathan Price |
| David Carlston | Dittika Gupta | Dawn Slavens |
| Hillary Coenen (for Mary Draper) | Lauren Jansen | Beverly Stiles |
| Eduardo Colmenares-Diaz | Erica Judie (for Jennifer Anderson) | Jill Young |
| Sanchari Choudhury | Tammy Kurszewski (for Randy Case) | Tiffany Ziegler |

Guests: Dr. JuliAnn Mazachek

Call to order: 3:05 PM

Housekeeping:

1. Approval of Agenda: Dr. Karen Moriarty recommended that committee reports be moved to the December Faculty Senate meeting. There were no objections.
2. Approval of Minutes from October meeting: Dr. Hillary Coenen made a motion to approve the October 2022 meeting minutes and Prof. Jill Young seconded; motion passed.

Current Business/Information Sharing: Dr. Mazachek

1. Preparing for the 2023 Texas Legislative Session
Dr. Mazachek discussed preparation for the upcoming legislative session. She explained that the MSU proposal is complete and ready. She reminded the senators that primary financial support for MSU comes from the total number of semester credit hours per semester. She reported that special funding requests will include the following:
 - a. \$2 million request for McCoy for a student success center, “maker space”, and to expand degree offering to include electrical engineering.
 - b. \$40 million request to upgrade and renovate Hardin. She explained that Hardin houses offices that are frequently visited by prospective students/parents and the environment in Hardin should be welcoming. She reported that many areas of Hardin are poorly designed and difficult to access such as Hardin South, 2nd floor. Some of the health sciences senators mentioned that the testing center located in Hardin is too small to accommodate some of the testing required for their students (standards per Pearson Vue).
 - c. Dr. Mazachek reported that a new study will be conducted to look at access to mental health services.
2. Budget Town Halls: Dr. Mazachek discussed the recent series of town hall meetings to discuss the budget process and answer questions. Most of the senators reported that they attended and were well-received.

3. Ad Hoc Planning Group: Dr. Mazachek stated that she called a group together over the summer to discuss goal-setting. The group consisted of program directors, deans, and VPs. The group also include HR and Legal. The group was tasked with setting departmental goals for the next 18-months, then coming together to prioritize a set of 5 goals for MSU. Some of the senators expressed concern about the addition of HR and Legal along with the lack of faculty representation in the group. Dr. Mazachek explained that the group turned into something unexpected and if she had the chance to redo, she would most definitely include faculty representation. She stated the group had their final meeting and will be sharing the top 5 goals in the near future.
4. Shared Governance: Dr. Mazachek reaffirmed her commitment to shared governance at MSU. She reported that during her first few months here at MSU, she has been bringing people together who “normally aren’t together” in hopes of creating opportunities for sharing. She also reported that she plans to meet with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on a regular basis in order to keep faculty up-to-date on issues not only affecting faculty, but the whole campus community.
5. Vision for MSU: Dr. Mazachek reported that strategic planning is just around the corner with plans to start the process in Spring 2023.

New Business

- Faculty Award voting: Dr. Moriarty received nominees from 4 out of 6 colleges; as soon as the remaining 2 nominees are received, a poll will be set up on SurveyMonkey and a link to vote will be sent to all faculty on campus.

Unfinished Business

1. End-of-Course Evaluations: Dr. Slavens/Ad Hoc Committee members
Dr. Slavens reported that the committee has not met. Dr. Moriarty proposed that while we are awaiting a report from the committee that we consider recommending that all end-of-course evaluations for Spring 2023 be sent to the students electronically, similar to what is currently being done for students taking online courses. There was a consensus that more discussion is needed and a suggestion that we move this issue to our December meeting.
2. Faculty Resources for Tenure and Promotion: Dr. Moriarty
 - a. Dr. Moriarty reported that she met with Dr. Johnston and later with Dr. Mazachek to discuss resources to help faculty achieve tenure and promotion. The Senate recommended some training for Chairs regarding how to guide faculty towards tenure and promotion including an overview of department, college, and university guidelines. Another recommendation was to have some team building sessions for the Chairs; Steve Sosoland from TTU was recommended as a possible facilitator. Both Drs. Johnston and Mazachek agreed that some training is needed for the Chairs; however, since the announcement of Dr. Johnston’s upcoming retirement, any further action should wait until an interim provost is on board.
 - b. Dr. Moriarty met with Dr. Pam Morgan in Distance Education to discuss the possibility of using D2L as the platform for digital tenure and promotion portfolios. Dr. Morgan set up a template portfolio in D2L based on an outline of the 2021 criteria for tenure and promotion. Dr. Moriarty will continue to work on the template then will solicit additional faculty willing to work on a digital portfolio in D2L.

Committee and Other Reports: (deferred to December 2022 meeting)

- Academic Council: *Dr. Dawn Slavens*
- Administrative Council: *Dr. Moriarty*
- Athletics Council: *Dr. Catherine Gaharan*
- Budget Oversight Committee: *Dr. Bev Stiles, Dr. Catherine Gaharan*
- Enrollment Management Council: *Dr. Mary Draper*
- Leadership Advisory Council: *Dr. Moriarty*
- Student Affairs: *Prof. Jill Young*
- University Celebration of Scholarship: *Dr. Randy Case*
- Others?

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm. Lauren Jansen made a motion to adjourn, and Bev Stiles seconded. The motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

Submitted,
Karen Moriarty,
Faculty Senate Chair

Next Meetings:

Executive Committee meeting will be at 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 1, 2022, via Zoom.
Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3:00 PM on Thursday, December 8, 2022, via Zoom.