

MSU Faculty Senate

August 2013 Minutes

The 2012-2013 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on **August 22**, in **Dillard 189**. Senators present included Jackie Dunn, Terry McDonald, Jon Price, Jane Leach, Barbara Dubois, Laura Fidelie, Gary Morrison, Ted Paddack, Kathy Roberts, Charles Bultena, Jim Owen, Phillip Wilson, Alan Black, Ruth Morrow, David Carlston, Jeremy Duff, Sally Henschel, Nathan Jun, Stuart McClintock, Suzanne Lindt, and Julie Wood. Visitors in attendance were Provost Betty Stewart and Julie Gaynor.

The agenda was unanimously approved.

The minutes of the **May 2013 Regular Meeting** were unanimously approved.

The minutes of the **May 2013 Special Meeting** were unanimously approved.

Current Business:

1. Dr. Betty Stewart addressed the Senate in regards to a proposed Faculty Survey conducted by UCLA. She believes the HERI Faculty Survey will “allow her and other members of the administration to work together with faculty to make data-driven decisions, to identify important academic concerns on campus, and to provide a foundation for the establishment of a mutually agreed upon academic agenda and a regular assessment process.” She asked the Faculty Senate to endorse the use of the survey by the MSU administration.

The survey has been administered by UCLA since 1984 and the 2013-2014 survey will be available online until March 2014. However, Dr. Stewart requests that the Faculty Senate make a decision on the endorsement of the survey as soon as possible.

The survey is not meant to compete with or replace the Faculty Satisfaction Survey initiated by the MSU Faculty Senate last year. The Faculty Senate plans to continue conducting that survey in the future.

The survey will be paid for by the Office of the Provost, and Dr. Stewart indicated that total cost would depend on how many faculty complete the survey. She estimated between \$2000-\$3000.

Gary Morrison made a motion to endorse the survey.
Julie Wood seconded the motion.

Discussion was held and the Faculty Senate decided to table the discussion until our meeting in September, due to the desire of several Senate members to discuss the survey with their constituents in their respective colleges.

Jim Owen made a motion to table the discussion.

Kathy Roberts seconded that motion.
It was unanimously agreed to by the Senate.

2. The Faculty Senate discussed the goals that were derived from the Faculty Satisfaction Survey conducted last academic year. Dr. Carlston asked the Senate to consider what our broad goals for the upcoming academic year should be. He then asked the Senate to consider how those goals might be turned into action by the Senate.

Dr. Fidelie laid out 3 major goals she identified as important:

- a. Establish a working relationship with the MSU administration in which the faculty are consulted and given the opportunity for input on decisions that impact faculty members.
- b. Develop relationships with various campus offices and groups.
- c. Explore how the Faculty Senate can improve communication among faculty.

Ruth Morrow made a motion to accept the goals as specified by Dr. Fidelie

Laura Fidelie seconded the motion.

After a lengthy discussion the motion was voted on.

It was unanimously agreed upon by the Senate.

3. Dr. Carlston read a letter sent to him by Dr. Jesse Rogers outlining an agreement to form a committee to choose future commencement speakers. In the letter, Dr. Rogers proposed a committee made up of the Chair of Faculty Senate, the Chair of Staff Senate, the SGA President, and the Director of Board and Government Relations, along with Dr. Rogers himself. The Faculty Senate agreed that this was a good start but expressed the desire to see more student input towards the process.
4. The Faculty Senate dealt with the issue of committee assignments for the upcoming academic year.

The following committee assignments were approved/voted on by the Senate:

Intercollegiate Athletics Council – Ted Paddack, Alan Black
Student Affairs and Enrollment Management Council – Suzanne Lindt
Architect Selection Advisory Committee – Stuart McClintock
Bookstore Advisory Committee – Nathan Jun
Employee Health and Fitness Committee – Betty Bowles, Karen Polvado
Faculty Forum Committee – SuHua Huang
Financial Aid Appeals Committee – Tina Johnson, Jeremy Duff
Pre-Law Scholarship Committee –Ranette Halverson

The following is the list of the assignments where, since the meeting, the individuals have agreed to return to their committees, but the Senate still needs to vote on their assignment:

ADA Grievance Committee – Beth Veale
Academic Appeals – Michaelle Kitchen, Grace Zhang
Artist-Lecture Series Committee – Jeff Hood, Phil Wilson
Faculty/Staff Traffic Appeals – Alejandro Gelves
Financial Aid Appeals Committee – Pam Moss
Pre-Law Scholarship Committee – Dick King
Student Allocations Committee – Catherine Gaharan

The following is the list of committees with open positions in which the Faculty Senate is requesting nominations:

University Data Standards/Security Committee – One position
ADA Grievance Committee – One position
Admissions Committee – One position
Faculty/Staff Traffic Appeals – One position

Committee and Other Reports:

1. Administrative Council (Owen) Meeting went over proposed changes to the Student Handbook.
2. Board of Regents (Carlston): Addressed proposed changes to the Student Handbook. Also discussed the investment of MSU money with that of Texas A&M University. Additionally, mentioned that baseball will be coming back to MSU. They also discussed enrollment projections, and Chair Carlston indicated that Dr. Rogers has requested to meet with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee at their next meeting.
3. Academic Council (Fidelie): Discussed the Academic Calendar, as well as, legislation that will be effective September 1. MSU will be required to accept transfer credit from any accredited school. The credit does not have to apply to the degree plan, but must be accepted towards total credit hours.
4. Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Lindt): (no report)
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Paddock): Spoke with the Chair of ICAC and received a written report from the Office of the Athletic Department. The most recently reported overall GPA for athletes was 2.41. Last academic year there were seven Academic All-Americans. Luke Joyce (Tennis) was awarded the Arthur Ashe Award for Leadership and Sportsmanship. Graduation rates for athletes are higher than for the general student population. They were 10% higher in 2011 and 13% higher in 2012.
6. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$1170.

New Business: none

Old Business: none

Announcements: none

The meeting adjourned at **4:55pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Duff
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

David Carlston
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, **September 5, 2013**, in Dillard 248.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, **September 12, 2013**, in Dillard 189.