

MSU Faculty Senate

February 2016 Minutes

The 2015-2016 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on **February 11, 2016**, in **Kiowa CSC**. Senators present included Charles Bultena, Laura Fidelie, Jeremy Duff, Bradley Wilson, Jonathan Price, Ray Willis, Phil Wilson, Kym Acuña, Rodney Fisher, Vicki Sanders, and Lucy Schultz. Also in attendance were Mitzi Lewis (proxy for Andrew Allen) and Karen Dabney (proxy for Susan Harvey) and Harry Hewitt. Guests in attendance were Director of Admissions, Gayonne Beavers, Associate Director of Admissions Leah Hickman, Staff Senate Representative, Sue Witherspoon, MSU Chief of Police, Patrick Coggins, and Director of Residence Life, Kristi Schulte.

Current Business:

1. The Faculty Senate unanimously approved the minutes from the January 2016 meeting.
2. Director of Residence Life, Kristi Schulte addressed the Senate about the new residence hall. It will provide about 500 new beds. They are looking to create some learning and career programs to administer within the new facility. They are also hoping to find a faculty member to fill a “Faculty in Residence” position. The new building will include an apartment for a faculty member to reside in. They will provide more information and an application for this position soon. Right now the construction progress is very good and they plan to open the building in the fall.
3. Associate Director of Admissions, Leah Hickman addressed the Senate about transfer students. Transfer students must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA from all schools they have attended. If they are lower they can appeal. Students who meet the criteria are still evaluated and each course is looked at “one-by-one” to determine whether it can be transferred as an equivalent to one of our courses.

For in-coming freshman, 40-50% enroll under advised admissions. Ms. Hickman stated that admissions has begun to look more seriously at GPA rather than SAT or ACT scores. She stated that the admission criteria are guidelines, but the admissions office has some leeway to make individual decisions. They are being told to increase enrollment without sacrificing the quality of students admitted. They are trying to do this “incrementally.”

4. MSU Chief of Police, Patrick Coggins addressed the Senate. Mr Coggins has had 27 years of experience in law enforcement. He began his career in the Air Force, and has served as a law enforcement officer in the military, at the municipal level, at the county level, and at positions in higher education. He spent 13 years with the Texas A&M System. He is a MSU Alum with a degree from the B.A.A.S. program. His philosophy

for the MSU Police Department is that “the Department exists to protect and serve and keep the campus a safe place to educate and work.”

Mr. Coggins also addressed the Campus Carry Policy stating that his main concern would be training his officers to identify “friend vs. foe.” He stated that this is his number one fear with allowing guns on campus. He worries that his officers will arrive to an active shooting situation and not be able to determine who is the shooter and who is trying to stop the shooter. He also emphasized that students are ONLY allowed to carry concealed on campus and that if a faculty member observes a student who is displaying a gun they should immediately report it to campus police. Some of these incidents may be accidental, but the campus police will investigate and make a determination.

5. The Faculty Senate voted on Faculty Emeritus Recommendations. After a brief discussion, all recommendations were unanimously approved. The following faculty were recommended for Emeritus status:

Gary Lewis
Gary Fashimpar
SusAnn Key
Ralph Fritzsch
Tom Hoffman

6. *Committee and Other Reports:*

Administrative Council (Carlston): No report.

Academic Council (Fidelie): No Report.

Board of Regents (Carlston): No Report.

Budget Oversight Committee (Sanders/Stiles): Dr. Shipley would like the BOC to educate individuals about the budget process. They would like recommendations on where the University can make money and where it can save money. For example, Senator Vicki Sanders stated that if students are in their freshman or sophomore year, but are taking upper level classes (or vice versa), the University loses money. Students who change majors after they have completed their sophomore year also cause the University to lose money.

First-Year Seminar Task Force: There will be no First-Year Seminars for Fall 2016. We will be emphasizing learning communities. They are looking at pairing classes for 40 sections of learning communities. The First-Year Seminar Task Force will continue to meet and work on developing a First-Year Seminar for future semesters.

Student Affairs (Lindt): Enrollment – applications are up 2% (114 students) from last spring, and up about 200 applications so far for this fall.

DFW campus – the University is still searching for a possible location, but planning to offer criminal justice, Masters of Education (Ed Leadership, Diagnostician, and Curriculum), respiratory care. The BAAS program will not commit until the market study is received. The site will also have admission counselors to recruit for this campus.

Residential Life – 90% occupancy in the dorms.

Dining hall – There will be remodels for Fall 2016. It will be closed over the summer for the remodel.

Students – They are asking faculty to look for outstanding student award nominations for the banquet on April 27.

Other – Rec Sports basketball is starting soon, as well as, the installation of artificial turf on practice fields.

Finances (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$1338.00

New Business: Senator Bradley Wilson stated that the Board of Regents approved the new building for the Mass Communications Department.

This year's Celebration of Scholarship is dedicated to University President, Dr. Shipley. The Committee has asked if faculty could make recommendations on appropriate ways to recognize Dr. Shipley during this event.

Old Business: None

The meeting adjourned at **4:09pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Duff
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

David Carlston
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

Next Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting: March 3, 2016, in Apache, CSC.

Next Faculty Senate Meeting: March 10, 2016, in CSC Kiowa.