

MSU Faculty Senate

March 2017 Minutes

The 2016-2017 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on **February 16, 2017**, in **Dillard 189**. Senators present included Kym Acuña, Andrew Allen, Jennifer Anderson, Salim Azzouz, Charles Bultena, Jeremy Duff, Rodney Fisher, Yvonne Franke, Katherine Gaharan, Stacia Miller, Victoria Sanders, Beverly Stiles, Charles Watson, Raymond Willis, Bradley Wilson and Phillip Wilson. Guests in attendance were Staff Senate Representative Johnna Lynn Weigand.

Housekeeping:

Approval of the minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously with no amendments.

Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved unanimously.

Current Business:

1. Financial Aid & Admission Task Force – Dr. Kristen Garrison talked at length about the recommendations of the task force. Specifically, she said the task force would recommend (1) establishing standard practices for first-year students such as taking no more than 16 credit hours and participating in high-impact practices; (2) designating some students as “exceptional”; (3) designating some students as “conditional” and those students would not be allowed to take more than 16 hours and would have to take Skills for Success; (4) developing a system of coding to better track students and their success; (5) increasing automatic admission to include the top 25 percent of a high school graduating class. In addition she discussed scholarships on campus and how the group would recommend restructuring them to target the desired student profile, increasing the minimum GPA to 2.0 and awarding more scholarships to higher-achieving students, for example.
2. First Year Seminar – Dr. Kristen Garrison also talked about the First Year Seminar. She said the group was specifically concerned about our second- to third-year persistence rate that was 55-62 percent. There would be 451 seats in learning communities this fall. And the goal was to have every single freshman in a high-impact activity by 2018.
3. IT Policies — No vote was taken. Administrators are considering other ways to present the policies.
4. Strategic Planning Committee – The committee reviewed the draft of the plan with Dr. Shipley March 8. A draft would be distributed campus-wide soon.

Committee and Other Reports:

1. Administrative Council (Carlston): No report

2. Board of Regents (Carlston): No report.
3. Financial Aid and Admissions Task Force: Covered above.
4. Summer School Advisory Committee: No report
5. Academic Council (Fidelie): No report
6. Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Allen): We have received 2,145 applications so far for Fall 2017, and have accepted 91 percent of the applicants.
7. Strategic Planning Committee (Killion): Covered above.
8. Budget Oversight Committee (Stiles): No Report
9. Student Success Committee (Franke): No Report
10. First Year Seminar: Covered above.
11. Fair Labor Standards Act: No report
12. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has a balance of \$1577.

New Business: If faculty have any questions about the Flower Mound campus please send them to your Faculty Senate representative. We will request a member of the Budget Committee and Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Dr. Keith Lamb, to attend a Senate meeting to discuss the new campus.

Old Business: None

The meeting adjourned at **4:01 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Duff
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

David Carlston
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

Next Meetings:

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, 2017, in PY Lounge.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 p.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2017, in Dillard 189.