

# MSU Faculty Senate

## January 2018 Minutes

The 2017-2018 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on **January 18, 2018**, in **Dillard 189**.

### **Senators present:**

Kim Acuña	Yvonne Franke	Matthew Luttrell
Jennifer Anderson	Catherine Gaharan	Stacia Miller
Salim Azzouz	Brandy Jolliff Scott	Jonathan Price
Chuck Bultena	(Substituting for Jeremy	Vicki Sanders
Dave Carlston	Duff, PSYCHSS)	Linda Veazey
Sarah Cobb	Nathan Jun	Matt Watson
Laura Fidelie	Attapol Kuanliang	Lynette Watts
Rodney Fisher	Adam Lei	Bradley Wilson

**Staff Senate Representative:** Courtney Snyder

### **Guests:**

Todd Giles  
David Hartman  
James Johnston  
Barry Macha

Call to order: 3:00 PM

### ***Housekeeping:***

#### Approval of Minutes

Senator Fidelie moved to approve the minutes. Senator Watts seconded the motion. The December 2017 Minutes were approved unanimously.

#### Approval of Agenda

Senator Fidelie moved to approve the agenda. Senator Watts seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

### ***Current Business:***

1. Life Long Learning Center – Dr. Todd Giles and Dr. Dave Hartman

Drs. Giles and Hartman explain the proposed Life Long Learning Center. It will focus on people over 50 and will follow models and best practices from other universities. The courses will include film series, workshops, campus access, educational travel, brown bag lectures, and special interest groups. The courses and programming will be self-determined – for community members by community members. It will be beneficial to the university to create physical space for community engagement.

Questions:

- What is the expected cost of membership?
- This is to be determined and that is part of what a focus group will help shape. Costs range from approximately \$50-160 for these types of centers.
- MSU is key to Wichita Falls, but many people have no experience with it. The center would bring the community into MSU.
- How much interest is there in this center?
- That is part of what a focus group will help determine. The aspiration is for 50 course hours available for Fall 2018.
- This would be a great venue for faculty or retired faculty to teach a one hour seminar.
- Other questions and comments should be directed to Todd Giles.

## 2. MSU Policy 3.340 Americans with Disabilities Act Policy – Dr. James Johnston

Dr. Johnston addressed both items 2 and 3 of the agenda. The ADA policy and web access policy will not be on the February Board of Regents meeting. They will be on the May agenda. MSU is working to be in compliance with Section 508 (which set an initial compliance deadline of January 2018). However, this deadline is not being actively enforced.

The mandates are coming from the US Department of Education and the Texas legislature. We need to work towards compliance. A taskforce has been suggested, which includes faculty members, to work on compliance and provide a timeline. Faculty Senate will forward to the Provost names of those willing to serve.

- Discussion of whether or not there were compliance pieces that were expected right now. An example was raised of the significant confusion over web accessibility and compliant syllabi.
- Senator Bultena pointed out that multiple campus entities have interpreted these compliance issues differently.
- Chair Carlston asked that Barry Macha's office forward the statutes referenced in each proposed policy to the faculty senate, so that faculty could learn more about what changes are being required.

Chair Carlston emphasized that this is why we need a committee to help us understand what to do; he also emphasized our appreciation to the administration for moving the policy to the May agenda and creating a taskforce to ensure a collaborative effort.

## 3. MSU Polity 4.151 Web Accessibility

Discussed in conjunction with item 2.

4. 4. MSU Policy 4.131 Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Policy Statement

Senator Fidelie moved to support MSU Policy 4.131 Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Policy Statement; Senator Fisher seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Faculty Satisfaction Survey Findings and Planning

Chair Carlston led the discussion of the survey results.

Key Findings:

- 152 faculty responded
- Concerns regarding compensation, benefits, and tenure and promotion.
- Pay satisfaction still below neutral on the scale, meaning some overall dissatisfaction.
- Benefit satisfaction dropped.
- 30% of faculty reported feeling exhausted and reporting burnout. Tenured faculty were more likely to experience burnout. Women were more likely to report burnout than men.

Chair Carlston suggested passing along to Provost and President that we do a comprehensive salary study, including the cost of living, benefits, etc. In addition, he suggested passing along the comments received in the survey regarding concerns in the work environment of sexual harassment and gender discrimination.

Discussion:

- Comments echo need for salary study
- Questions about the extent of sexual harassment and gender discrimination regarding how widespread it is on campus or if it is limited to particular areas.
- Questions about the campus reporting process.
- Responses that we should look at this from the highest level.
- Regarding workload, questions about whether or not we should have a two-tiered faculty structure in which some faculty are teaching focused and others are research-focused.
- Number of courses is less of an issue than class-sizes in some fields.

6. Electronic Accessibility Committee Appointment

Names should be forwarded to Chair Carlston.

***Committee and Other Reports:***

**1. Administrative Council (Dr. Carlston):**

No meeting report.

**2. Board of Regents (Dr. Carlston):**

No meeting to report.

**3. Academic Council (Dr. Fidelie)**

No meeting to report.

**4. Other active committees:**

No meetings to report.

**5. Financial Report (Dr. Bultena):**

Treasurer Bultena reported that the financial report is \$1,140.

***Old Business:***

None

***New Business:***

None.

Senator Watts moved to adjourn the meeting. Senator Cobb seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 4:31 PM.

Submitted,

Linda Veazey,  
Faculty Senate Secretary

David Carlson,  
Faculty Senate Chairperson

***Next Meetings:***

The next **Executive Committee meeting** will be at **3:00 PM on Tuesday, February 6** in the **PY Staff Lounge**.

The next **Faculty Senate meeting** will be at **3:00 PM on Thursday, February 15** in **Kiowa I and II**.