

# MSU Faculty Senate

## October 2015 Minutes

The 2015-2016 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on **October 8, 2015**, in **Dillard 189**. Senators present included Charles Bultena, Laura Fidelie, Jeremy Duff, David Carlston, Bradley Wilson, Philip Wilson, Greg Giddings, Jon Price, Charles Watson, Andrew Allen, Matthew Luttrell, Beverly Stiles, Rodney Fisher, Ray Willis, Jeff Killion, Kym Acuña, Suzanne Lindt, Ben Atkins, Jennifer Anderson, and Vicki Sanders. Also in attendance was Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Keith Lamb.

### *Current Business:*

1. Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Dr. Keith Lamb, addressed the Senate about University enrollment. The University changed admission standards between 2011 and 2012 and we saw a drop in enrollment. At that time, they started aggressively recruiting the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Enrollment has increased to 6,043 students this fall. Students are also enrolling in more total credit hours. There has been a slight decrease in First Time/Full Time students (847 in 2013, 820 in 2015). However, this is relatively high for MSU. Most of our students are now coming from the DFW area (35%). Enrollment from Wichita County is up from 24.8% in 2013, to 28.2% in 2015. We get about 1.2% of our students from Oklahoma and 4.4% from the Austin area. Hispanic enrollment is at 24.8% (up from 2013). 13.5% of students are Black (down from 2013). 51.2% of students are white (down from 2013). The mean ACT score of enrolling freshmen is up from 2013 (21.19) to 21.8. Mean SAT scores are slightly down. They were 999.91 in 2013, and 999.6 in 2015. Students are entering MSU with a higher class rank than in 2013. 13.8% of our incoming students, for 2015, were ranked in the top 10% of their class. That number, in 2013, was 10.3%. In 2015, 38.8% of incoming freshmen were ranked in the top 25% of their class. In 2013, that percentage was 34.9%. We get the most students from those who are ranked between 26-50% in their class. That number, in 2013, was 36.9% in 2013, but, by 2015, was down to 33.9%. We get about 6.9% of our students from the bottom 25% of their class. Fall to fall retention, in 2014, was 70%. The national average is 70%. We have 141 new international students from 35 different countries. We have a total of 577 international students from 54 different countries. The most international students are from India (14%). Dominica ranks second at 10.9%, and China is third with 7.8%. Dr. Lamb said they continue to expect an increase in the number of students from China. Our overall acceptance rate is 71.8%. Compared to other COPLAC schools this puts us right in the middle. Our freshman yield rate is 39% which also puts MSU right in the middle. Midwestern is more diverse than the average COPLAC school. However, compared to other COPLAC schools MSU incoming freshman have some of the lowest average SAT scores. Additionally, MSU offers much less money in grants and scholarships to students than other COPLAC schools. Dr. Lamb emphasized that we need to offer more money to attract better students.

Currently MSU is attempting to increase its online presence. Marketing is working on creating an online tour of the campus. It will be available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin. Additionally, they are rolling out new social media initiatives and have hired a DFW based assistant director to specifically recruit students from that area. They are also working to increase classroom presentations in schools and increase their presence at community colleges. Dr. Lamb stated that the University still needs to do more work to retain and engage students. He believes the new housing project and the First Year Seminar will help with this.

Dr. Lamb stated that if we assume no increase in Distance Education, and no development of extension centers, he expects enrollment to reach 6,121 by 2016 and 6,790 by 2022.

Senator Lindt stated that she saw Tarleton State University recruiting at the Lone Star Conference Football Festival. Dr. Lamb emphasized that senators should meet with their deans and discuss better ways to recruit students.

2. The Senate asked Dr. Lamb about enforcing the smoking policy on campus. Dr. Lamb stated that the policy has never really been enforced but that it is “in his queue” right now to develop a plan for enforcement. He suggested that it may begin with a “grace period” in order to prevent overwhelming the student judicial office with cases.
3. The Faculty Senate voted on the proposed Consensual Relations Policy. The policy was unanimously supported by the Senate.
4. The Faculty Senate considered the Fall Break options proposed by the Office of the Provost. The Senate was asked to vote on two items: 1) To support or not support a Fall Break, and 2) if the Office of the Provost chooses to implement a Fall Break, which option the Senate prefers. The Senate voted against a Fall Break, with the Dillard College voting in support of a break. The Senate then voted in approval of the “Red Option” which adds a one day Fall Break (Columbus Day) and pushes finals back one day in December. The vote was 12 to 8 in support of this option.
5. The Senate voted on the University’s Piper Award Nominee. Sally Henschel was chosen as the Piper Nominee.
6. *Committee and Other Reports:*

Administrative Council (Carlston): Did not meet.

Student Affairs (Lindt): Did not meet.

First Year Seminar (Lindt): The committee is making slow progress, as there are many differing perspectives. Dr. Lindt stressed that she and other faculty are pushing for the Seminar to be a faculty driven course and not just an extended College Connections. The

committee was reported to have drafted a set of six goals and will continue to meet weekly. Senator Anderson proposed that the Senate work on drafting a resolution that emphasized the need to have a faculty driven course. This was tabled until the next Senate meeting so that a resolution could be drafted.

Campus Carry Task Force (Fidelie): The Campus Carry Task Force had its first meeting on Friday, October 2. In the meeting, they discussed the process for collecting information to help shape campus carry recommendations, as well as a timeline for formulating those recommendations. As a first step the Campus Carry Task Force will be implementing an online survey, which will run from October 26-November 6. The Task Force will also hold a public forum on Monday, November 2 from 6-8 PM in Dillard 101.

Finances (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has \$1730.00

*New Business:* None

*Old Business:* None

The meeting adjourned at **4:25 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Duff  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

David Carlston  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate

Next Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting: November 5, 2015, in the PY Staff Lounge.  
Next Faculty Senate Meeting: November 12, 2015, in CSC Kiowa.