

# MSU Faculty Senate

## September 2014 Minutes

The 2014-2015 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on **September 11, 2014**, in **Dillard 189**. Senators present included David Carlston, Laura Fidelie, Charles Bultena, Angie Reay (Staff Senate Representative), Stuart McClintock, Jonathan Price, Sally Henschel, Lauren Jansen, Jane Leach, Barbara DeBois, Jennifer Gresham, Vicki Sanders, Tommye Hutson, Suzanne Lindt, Ted Paddack, Linda Veazey (proxy for Jeremy Duff), Phil Wilson, Bradley Wilson, Ruth Morrow, Susan Harvey, and Alejandro Gelves.

### *Current Business:*

1. The Faculty Senate voted on committee appointments. Below are the results:
  - a. Publications Board: Briton Coxe (PYCHSS)
  - b. 504/ADA Grievance Committee: Victoria Sanders (HSHS)
  - c. Academic Appeals: Roy Vogtsberger (Science and Math) and Patricia Anderson (West College), Alternate: Linda Treitler (Science and Math)
  - d. Admissions Committee: Jesse Carlucci (Science and Math), Alternates: Victoria Sanders (HSHS) and Linda Treitler (HSHS)
  - e. Artist-Lecture Series: Voting member: Andrew Allen (Fain), Non-voting member: Ben Atkins (HSHS)
  - f. Faculty Forum Committee: Jonathan Price (Science and Math) and Katherine Stringfellow (Science and Math)
  - g. Faculty/Staff Traffic Appeals Committee: Laura Martin (Dillard)
  
2. The Faculty Senate discussed the results from the Faculty Satisfaction Survey. Survey results show strides have been made in the relationship with the Board of Regents and the University administration. Ruth Morrow discussed her recent presentation to the Board of Regents. Moving forward, one faculty member will present at each meeting. A faculty member from the Dillard College of Business will present at the November board meeting. Other issues discussed in regards to the FSS are as follows:

Improving Communication on Campus: To improve communication between the Faculty Senate and the faculty, Senate representatives should meet with faculty members from his/her college and send emails to the faculty of that college. Additionally, committee reports should be improved.

There is room for improvement with faculty morale and concerns with University leadership. There is also room for improvement with faculty perception of the relationship with University leadership.

Faculty Pay: The survey shows that satisfaction with pay is increasing, but is below the midpoint line in the results. Therefore, there is still room for improvement with faculty

satisfaction in this area. It was shared in the presentation that Dr. Stewart had been asked at a Board of Regents meeting to comment on faculty pay and she indicated that it is low. The Board countered that the cost of living in Wichita Falls is low. It appears that the Board is less concerned about faculty pay than the faculty and administration are. It was determined that a compensation study might be necessary to look at faculty pay compared to cost of living.

Faculty with data to share regarding salaries from their professional organizations should send this information to Dave Carlston.

The survey also suggested that faculty do not feel valued for their research. It is difficult to maintain an active research agenda and a high teaching load.

Faculty Development:

It was noted by members of the Faculty Senate that there is no support for web-based faculty development and that continuing education should be supported.

Faculty Grievance Policy: Dave Carlston suggests that Faculty Senate look at the grievance policy and rewrite it. The university's counsel will be asked to assist with this.

The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to accept the Faculty Satisfaction Survey presentation with the additions of the response rate to the survey and the suggestion to email the presentation to the Provost in advance of the scheduled meeting to discuss the results. Additionally the survey results will be sent to the University Provost and to the University President.

The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to approve the goals taken from the results of the Faculty Satisfaction Survey.

3. The Faculty Senate discussed the search for a new University President. It was expressed that the faculty voice needs to be made clear in the search process in order to explain the importance of academics. Two goals were discussed: a) a president with an academic background and a liberal arts vision, b) a willingness to be open with the faculty and community. The Presidential Search Committee is made up of the following members:

Board of Regents:

Shawn Hessing (Board Chair)

Mike Bernhardt (Vice Chair)

Caven Crosnoe

Tiffany Burks

Faculty:

David Carlston

Ranette Halverson

Deans:

Sam Watson

Staff:

Dirk Welch (Staff Senate Chair)

Community/alumni:

Mac Cannedy Jr. MSU alumnus, accountant and Regent Emeritus

Darrell Coleman, MSU alumnus and former newspaper publisher  
Carol Gunn, MSU alumna and former regent

Student:

Rebecca Stogner (SGA President)

Additional Search Committee Members:

Debbie Barrow (Director of Board and Government Relations)

Barry Macha (General Counsel)

It is hoped that a new president will be chosen by May 2015.

4. The Faculty Senate discussed the schedule of speakers for upcoming Faculty Senate meetings. That schedule is as follows:

October: Provost/President

November: CFO

December: Howard Farrell

February: Keith Lamb

March: Provost/President

The Faculty Senate voted unanimously to accept this schedule of speakers.

5. Committee Reports

Board of Regents: Dave Carlston reports that the Board is excited about the long-term planning for the campus. Faculty should keep a pulse on where things are going, as far as campus building projects go.

Enrollment: Final numbers not available, but enrollment seems tight and faculty are feeling the pinch, with courses full or overfull and some departments not having enough faculty.

The meeting adjourned at **4:45pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Duff  
Secretary of the Faculty Senate

David Carlston  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate