

ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE UNCORRECTED MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2009

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular monthly meeting in the Coskrey Auditorium at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2009.

Members absent and excused were: Michael Brashier, John Byrd, Dave Dampier, Ted Dason Burnette Hamil. Ken Hood, and Ray Vaughn.

Members unexcused: Robert Harland, Tom Matney and Barry Stewart.

The meeting was called to order by the Senate President, Hart Bailey.

Senator Bridges moved to accept the minutes and Senator Bruce Eubanks seconded the motion. The minutes of the April 4, 2009, meeting were approved.

GUESTS

Dr. Mark Keenum, President

Dr. Keenum thanked the Senate for the invitation and noted the upcoming Fall Faculty Meeting.

Dr. Keenum shared the details of the upcoming press release about fall enrollment both at MSU and across the state. MSU saw a 4.4% increase in enrollment and will once again be the largest university in the state. MSU also had the best graduation rate for the past year. He shared information about enrollment in other universities and community colleges.

Dr. Keenum stated the 5% budget cut was official. The university had already prepared for this cut, so MSU is in good financial shape. He further discussed the fall retreat of IHL, Board of Trustees, and Presidents of the 8 institutes. More budget cuts are anticipated over the next 2 years. Dr. Keenum is evaluating “what is fair” as cuts are made. He encouraged all to look for ways to be efficient. Dr. Hank Bounds is also emphasizing the idea of “efficiencies” during the tough budget times. Dr. Keenum noted that the university is looking for ways to be prudent and not wait for IHL to “tell us how to cut our budget”.

Several questions were asked about the impact on faculty and staff. Dr. Keenum reiterated his goal of finding efficient and innovative ways to meet the budget cuts.

Dr. Peter Rabideau, Provost

Dr. Rabideau welcomed the Senate back. He informed the senate about the following changes: Dr. Matt Raven has left MSU, Dr. Linda Morse is the new director of the Teaching and Learning Center, Dr. Peter Ryan is interning in the Provost Office, Dr. David Boles has retired, and Wes Ammon and Ray Berryhill. At the IHL level, Dr. Lynn House has left and Dr. Al Franken has replaced her.

Dr. Rabideau gave information about number of faculty to make it to tenure across the state. For the 2002 cohort, MSU had 66% promoted and tenured.

Dr. Rabideau discussed his perception of the impending budget cuts. He stated 90% of the budget is in faculty salary.

Three people will represent MSU as part of the SEC Academic Leadership Program.

Dr. Lou D'Abramo, Graduate School Dean

Dr. D'Abramo shared a slide show about Office of Graduate Studies roles and responsibilities. There is a slow upward trend of number of students and those awarded a PhD.

REPORT OF THE SENATE PRESIDENT

Welcome fellow Senators to the first session of the 2009-2010 Mississippi State University R. H. Holland Faculty Senate. On behalf of the returning Senators, I want welcome each new member and say we look forward to serving with and getting to know you this year.

It is certainly a personal honor and privilege to be able to serve as your Faculty Senate President and represent the Faculty on Campus. The responsibilities of the office are ones that I take very seriously and I can think of no greater honor for a faculty member than to be entrusted with this position by his colleagues.

Your Faculty Senate officers are Dr. Megan Millea (Vice President), Dr. Dana Franz (Secretary), and the Committee Chairs are Dr. Jerry Emison, University Resources, Dr. Tom Carskadon, Student Affairs, Dr. Janet Rafferty, Charter and By-Laws, Dr. Cody Coyne, Faculty Affairs, Dr. David Bridges, Academic Affairs, and Dr. Ray Vaughn, Ancillary Affairs.

Many administrative changes are occurring on campus. This academic year looks to afford each Senate Committee the opportunity to be involved with issues that will have long term affects on campus. Interestingly, we will have the occasion to work with a President, three Vice Presidents, a Provost and an IHL Commissioner, all who will have assumed their positions within the year. This situation provides us the unique opportunity to build relationships of cooperation with these new administrators. Given the current budgetary climate, our participation in true shared governance will be needed to ensure Mississippi State continues to fulfill its mission. The participation and input of each of you committee members is vitally needed and I want to thank you in advance for all the work you will do.

Over the last two months we have been working on a number of different issues that will hopefully enhance the effort of our group. As a function of this position, I have represented the Faculty Senate on a number of committees since July 1. There has been a great deal of activity relative to the planning of the Investiture to be held on October 16, 2009. Dr. Keenum has stressed his desire for the participation of the Faculty to be an integral component of the event. I would like to ask each of you Senators to participate and ask that you encourage your colleagues to be involved as well. The fall semester General Faculty Meeting, held September 1, was well attended and Dr. Keenum gave a comprehensive report of the prominent issues that are facing Mississippi State.

Dr. Millea and I met with the Information Technology Department concerning upgrading the Senate's webpage. I will be appointing a subcommittee that will be tasked with overseeing this project. Among the issues that need to be considered will be applications, content, appearance, and security. If you have expertise that can be utilized or interest in this project please email me.

Another subcommittee to be assembled will deal with the Senate's function in designing and administering survey's and elections. If you have expertise to offer or interest in this project please let me know of your desire to serve. Of course both groups will be seeking input from the Senate as a whole as they address their tasks.

The University Governance document stresses the importance of all the university community, e.g., faculty, staff and students being involved in the processes necessary for the meeting the University's mission. In an effort to

build relationships with these different groups, over the summer I met with Mr. Sam Manning, Chair of the Professional Support Staff Advisory Council, Dr. Jimmy Abraham, Associate Vice President, Development and Alumni, and Executive Director MSU Alumni Association, and Mr. Blake Jeter, Student Association President I have invited them to regularly attend the Faculty Senate meetings in an effort to encourage a continuing dialogue between our groups.

There will be some new aspects of the Faculty Senate office this year in that Mrs. Delores Hudson has taken a position with the new Office of Institutional Effectiveness. Delores has graciously volunteered to assist us as needed in the interim period until we find a new staff member. We thank her for her 10 years of dedicated service to the Senate and will miss her abilities and willingness to serve. Please make an effort to thank her personally. The replacement process is in Human Resources and the job announcement should be posted soon. Along that same line of discussion, the Faculty Senate had to plan for a 5% budget cut, which was taken from the different budgetary categories, excluding the salary line.

This year will surely present the Faculty Senate with many issues of importance to Mississippi State. I would encourage us to continue our tradition of an atmosphere of collegiality, cooperation, civility and mutual respect in our deliberations. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Submitted September 8, 2009

R. H. "Hart" Bailey
President
Faculty Senate

SENATE VICE PRESIDENT REPORT

As a function of my Faculty Senate Vice-Presidential duties, I have only attended one Traffic Committee meeting. The Academic Dean's Council meeting for August was cancelled because it fell on the first day of classes. September's meeting will be held on the 21st.

This summer, I contacted ITS to update the Senate Website. The work design work will likely commence mid to late September.

I also worked on ad hoc committee for the Mission and Vision Statements. Please review the statements at <http://www.msstate.edu/web/mission.htm> submit any comments to missionreview@msstate.edu

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Millea
September 8, 2009

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Open Enrollment will be in October.

BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEES

- 6.1 AOP 12.04 Final Examination Policy – Academic Affairs
- 6.2 AOP 13.22 Guidelines for Adjunct Faculty – Faculty Affairs
- 6.3 AOP 12.xx Awarding of Degrees Posthumously – Academic Affairs
- 6.4 Section 8.1.2. Promotion & Tenure policy – Faculty Affairs
- 6.5 AOP 11.02 Special Non-Degree Student Classification – Academic Affairs
- 6.6 Annual Faculty Reviews – Faculty Affairs

BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEES BY CONSENT CALENDAR

- 12.12 Credit, Grades, and Academic Standing: Academic Affairs
- 12.02 Withdrawal from the University: Academic Affairs
- 11.11 Auditing a Class: Academic Affairs
- 11.04 Combined Undergraduate/Graduate Courses: Academic Affairs
- 11.01 Shackouls Honors College, Division of Academic Affairs: Academic Affairs
- 10.08 Classroom Regulations: Ancillary Affairs
- 10.07 US Department of Veteran Affairs: Student Affairs

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

7.1.1 NO REPORT

ANCILLARY AFFAIRS

7.2.1 NO REPORT

CHARTER AND BYLAWS

7.3.1 NO REPORT

FACULTY AFFAIRS

7.4.1 NO REPORT

STUDENT AFFAIRS

7.5.1 NO REPORT

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

7.6.1 NO REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

8.1 NO OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1 COMMITTEE NEEDS: RESEARCH COUNCIL, TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**
- 9.2 FORMING INFORMAL ADVISORY TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL**

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTED AT MEETING

- 10.1 COMMITTEES**
- 10.2 FLOW-CHART OF FACULTY BUSINESS**
- 10.3 FACULTY HANDBOOK TABLE OF CONTENT**
- 10.4 BUDGET**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Submitted for correction and approval.

Dana Pomykal Franz, Secretary