

**ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE
UNCORRECTED MINUTES OF MEETING ON APRIL 20, 2001**

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular meeting in Coskrey Auditorium of Memorial Hall at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 20, 2001.

Members absent and excused were Homes Hogue and Marvin Salin.

Members absent and unexcused were David Huddleston, Pearson Liddell, Terry Obert and Linda Pote.

The meeting was broadcast real-time over the World Wide Web. The file will be left active for a few weeks and can be reviewed by clicking on the Senate homepage at http://www.msstate.edu/Org/FS/faculty_senate.html.

Chair Dan Embree called the meeting to order.

Chair Embree referred to the minutes of the March 23, 2000, Regular Meeting as distributed. Senator McGrath moved, Senator Crowell seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the minutes of March 23, 2000. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

WELCOME OF NEW SENATORS

Chair Embree introduced new and re-elected members of the Senate: from Arts and Science - Dan Embree (second term), Stanly Godbold, George Light (second term) and Gary Myers; from; from Business and Industry - Terry Obert; from Education - Vincent McGrath, Linda Morse (second term) and Kent Payne; from Engineering - Pasquali Cinnella (second term), Allen Greenwood and David Huddleston (second term); from Forestry - Bill Stuart; from Veterinary Medicine - Linda Pote (second term) and as Student Association President - Sebron Harrison.

GUESTS

Chair Embree introduced the guest of the Senate, President Malcolm Portera.

MALCOLM PORTERA, PRESIDENT

Dr. Portera provided the following information:

- < The Board of Trustees did not finalize budget allocations at its April 19, 2001, meeting. The Board decided to wait one more month and will then be prepared to determine how to distribute the cut that was made by the state legislature. MSU's portion of the cut will be about \$12.5-13 million with \$6 million of this amount accounted for during the 2000-2001 fiscal year. About \$7.5-8 million that will have to be addressed during the 2001-2002 fiscal year.
- < The Board of Trustees approved a tuition increase of 15-percent, which will generate about \$6 million for the university.
- < Other issues to be addressed during the upcoming fiscal year: health insurance for the institution is going up about \$312,000; promotions will have to be funded; scholarships costing about \$1 million will have to be funded; and other one-time items that will have to be addressed such as back-flow preventers which will cost about \$125,000 and classroom renovations costing about one-half million.
- < Portera continues to try to protect personnel.
- < Portera is calling on the Office of External Affairs to become a self-supporting situation which will generate a possible one-half million in the budget.
- < Portera is also calling on the Athletic Department to make a one-half million dollar commitment back to the university for this year.
- < There will be a called General Faculty Meeting early next week.
- < Senator Crowell asked about the tuition increase and how it would affect undergraduate students. Portera responded that it would be about a \$450 dollar increase per academic year.
- < Senator Cinnella asked if MSU was making plans to cover the possible additional budget cut in October. Portera responded that no one can predict what the economy is going to do. If it gets worse, there will be additional cuts and MSU will face the challenge at that time.
- < Senator Diehl asked about the freeze on faculty positions. Portera responded that he has asked Dr. Cole to look into this and where positions must be filled, they will.
- < Senator Byrd asked if the university could investigate the meeting schedules of university committees, such as the University Curriculum Committee, finishing their business before the Summer so that programs, changes and proposals could go

through and be in effect for the Fall term. Portera responded that this was possible and to contact Chair Embree and UCC Chair Keith Belli to see what can be done.

- < Senator Crowell asked if any progress had been made on the "Memorandum of Understanding," whose principal stated subject was "Promotion, Tenure and Related Employment Policies for Full-Time University Faculty Assigned to the Meridian Campus of Mississippi State University." Portera responded that he did not know but would check with Dr. Cole and let Senator Crowell know by the first of next week.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Embree began his Chair's Report by sharing the following remarks:

- < Portera asked Chair Embree to nominate three individuals to a Special Parking Committee which will investigate overhauling the parking situation throughout campus. This is not the committee that was investigating the parking situation at football games. Embree has nominated Lorenzo Crowell, David Lang, and Jamie Mixon.
- < Embree updated the Senate about the Special Research Scholarship Fund established in the Office of Research in the amount of \$100,000. Thirteen applicants have requested funds; ten have been granted and three denied. The grants have averaged about \$1,000 each. Embree requested that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate's University Resources Committee be prepared to give a year-end report on this fund at the beginning of the fall session.
- < A program review is currently assessing the worth of a program in Meridian called the Manufacturing Technology Program. The process by which the President formed this committee was recommended to him by the Faculty Senate Executive Council. Brad Carter is chairing this committee of six elected faculty members, and four members appointed by the President.
- < Embree thanked Senators for their service over the past year with particular thanks to committee chairs. A special thanks to Chris Duncan who has been a committee chair and is leaving the university. Also special thanks were given to the Senate Chair's secretary, Gail Bishop.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

Vice Chair D'Abramo referred to the Robert Holland Faculty Senate Vice Chair's Report as distributed. Senator Embree asked D'Abramo if he had any new information on the selection of Deans in the colleges that are without. D'Abramo responded that he could not.

Senator Williams referred to Provost Cole's comments in the April 2, 2001, Deans Council where Cole states that he "has fallen behind in the schedule to provide decisions about promotion and tenure for those faculty who have applied" and asked when this situation is going to be straightened out. D'Abramo responded that he is still a member of the University's Promotion and Tenure Committee and they are scheduled to meet with Dr. Cole on April 23rd to discuss this matter.

Senator Duncan asked how Provost Cole responds to the irony of associate professors being turned for promotion to full professor versus the President asking professors to teach more and take up the slack. D'Abramo stated that he had asked Provost Cole this very thing and received no response.

Senator Diehl asked if it were true that some faculty were not given reasons for their promotions or tenure applications being denied. D'Abramo responded that he would ask Provost Cole about this at their Tuesday meeting. Senator Embree commented that the Governance Document states that the administration should give an explanation.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

University Research Council -- Senator Pasquale Cinnella referred to his report as distributed. There were no comments or questions.

BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEES

Letter from Dr. D'Abramo re: Athletic Academics -- Senator Crowell moved, Senator Light seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate. Chair Embree assigned this issue to the Student Affairs Committee.

Letter from Dr. Embree re: By-law amendments -- Senator Crowell moved, Senator Rogers seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate. Chair Embree assigned this issue to the Charters and Bylaws Committee.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Embree turned the chair over to Vice-Chair D'Abramo for the election of officers since he is a candidate for office.

One nomination for Chair of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate for the 2001-2002 term was received by the designated date: Senator Dan Embree. Receiving no further nominations for chair from the floor, Acting Chair D'Abramo closed nominations. Senator Embree was elected by a Senate vote of 44-0-3.

One nomination for Vice Chair of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate for the 2001-2002 term was received by the designated date: Senator Walter Diehl. Receiving no further nominations for vice chair from the floor, Acting Chair D'Abramo closed nominations. Senator Diehl was elected by a Senate vote of 43-0-0.

Senator Light nominated Senator LaDonne Delgado for Secretary of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate for the 2001-2002 term. Receiving no further nominations for secretary from the floor, Acting Chair D'Abramo closed nominations. Senator Delgado was elected by a Senate vote of 41-0-0.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON GRADING STANDARDS

Senator Embree moved, Senator Crowell seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the report from the Special Committee on Grading Standards. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Embree moved, Senator Light seconded, to allow Professor Donohoe and Professor Hosie to comment on this committee report. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Embree, Chair of the Special Committee on Grading Standards, referred to this Committee's report. Senator Embree moved, Senator Light seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate endorse the following recommendations:

1. That the provost direct the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Institutional Effectiveness to prepare annual grade summaries displaying the following data by course and professor:
 - Number of A's, B's, C's, D's and F's.
 - Grade point average.
 - Number of students for each of the previous three years.
 - Grade point average for each of the previous three years.
2. That the provost direct all academic department heads to conduct annual meetings with their faculties, and all academic deans to conduct annual meetings with their department heads, to review and discuss the annual grade summaries and to report the results of these discussions to the provost.
3. That the provost institute Pass/Fail grading for practicum courses and cooperative programs.

4. That the provost direct that consistent and relevant grading practices be a standard topic in the overall assessment of teaching performance in annual reviews.

Senator Byrd offered a friendly amendment to add "W's" under recommendation one so that the phrase would read "Number of A's, B's, C's, D's, F's and W's." This amendment was accepted by the committee.

Senator Marshall offered a friendly amendment adding a phrase to the end of recommendation one so that it would read:

1. That the provost direct the Office of Planning, Evaluation, and Institutional Effectiveness to prepare annual grade summaries displaying the following data by course and professor to be distributed to every member of the department:

This amendment was accepted by the committee.

Senator Crowell offered a friendly amendment to change recommendation four to read:

4. That the provost direct that consistent and relevant grading practices be a standard topic in the overall assessment of teaching performance in annual reviews and that variation from and departmental norm will be used to counsel, not to punish or reward, faculty members.

This amendment was not accepted by the committee.

Senator Crowell moved, Senator Gootee seconded, to change recommendation four to read:

4. That the provost direct that consistent and relevant grading practices be a standard topic in the overall assessment of teaching performance in annual reviews and that variation from and departmental norm will be used to counsel, not to punish or reward, faculty members.

The motion failed on a Senate vote of 4-32-2.

The original motion with the two accepted friendly amendments passed on a Senate vote of 33-5-0.

Acting Chair D'Abramo turned the chair back over to Chair Embree.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY COMMITTEE

Dr. Nancy Cox moved, Senator Rogers seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the report from the Intellectual Property Policy Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Dr. Nancy Cox, Chair of the Intellectual Property Policy Committee, referred to this Committee's report. Dr. Cox moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded,

- (1) That the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the revised Intellectual Property Policy and
- (2) That the recommendation of this committee of November 10, 2000, be rescinded because the reimbursement policy has been appropriately addressed by administration in the intervening period since November 2000. These changes are addressed in the newest policy revision. (That recommendation was "That the Administration, in cooperation with the Intellectual Property/Technology Licensing Officer, the Chair of the Senate, and appropriate faculty members, develop a university policy for the recovery of university expenses associated with Intellectual Property.")

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 32-0-5.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

ANCILLARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Morse moved, Senator McLaurin seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the report from the Ancillary Affairs Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Morse, Chair of the Ancillary Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to HRM #60-225: Tuition Remission - Employees and HRM #60-226: Tuition Remission - Dependent Children of Employees. Senator Morse moved, Senator Hood seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate endorse HRM #60-225 as is and endorse HRM #60-226 with the clarification that "at fifty percent" be reinserted under section IA, page 1 (amount of tuition remission for dependent children).

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 36-0-0.

CHARTER AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

Senator Diehl moved, Senator Smyer seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the report from the Charter and Bylaws Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Diehl, Chair of the Charter and Bylaws Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to conducting a census of the faculty of Mississippi State University to determine the number of seats in the Robert Holland Faculty Senate that should be apportioned to each college or unit for 2001-2003. There is no change in apportionment of seats; therefore, the Senate took no action.

Senator Smyer moved, Senator McLaurin seconded, to allow Jonathan Pote to comment on the following committee report. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Diehl, Chair of the Charter and Bylaws Committee, referred to this Committee's report on the proposed revisions to Policy OP 56.06. Senator Diehl moved, Senator Rogers seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve proposed "Policy and Procedure Statement on Research and Extension Professional Staff Positions for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine and in the Division of Research at Mississippi State University."

Senator Cinnella offered a friendly amendment to remove "normally" from the last sentence under Policy/Procedures, Position Titles in this document. The amendment was not accepted.

Senator Cinnella moved, Senator McGrath seconded, to remove the word "normally" from the last sentence under Policy/Procedures, Position Titles in this document. The motion failed on a Senate vote of 3-29-2.

Senator Marshall offered a friendly amendment to remove "for a limited period of time, normally not exceeding three years" from the last sentence under Policy/Procedures, Position Titles in this document. The amendment was not accepted.

Senator Marshall moved to remove "for a limited period of time, normally not exceeding three years" from the last sentence under Policy/Procedures, Position Titles in this document. There was no second to the motion.

The original motion passed on a Senate vote of 33-0-3.

Senator Diehl, Chair of the Charter and Bylaws Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to the proposed revisions to Policy OP 56.06. Senator Diehl moved, Senator Crowell seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve proposed "Policy and Procedure Statement on Research, Extension and Clinical Faculty Positions for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine and in the Division of Research at Mississippi State University" with the following modification:

Under General Criteria for Appointment to Research/Extension/Clinical Positions, 3. Associate Research/Extension/Clinical Professor, the phrase "a level of excellence appropriate for the rank" replace the phrase "satisfactory level." The new section would read as follows:

3. Associate Research/Extension/Clinical Professor: A faculty member who has met the criteria for Assistant Research/Extension/Clinical Professor and has consistently demonstrated an ability to perform at a level of excellence appropriate for the rank in research/extension/clinical activity or creative achievement.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 36-0-1.

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Senator Chris Duncan took a point of personal privilege to thank his fellow Senators and bid them farewell as he leaves the university.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

No report.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Senator Lou D'Abramo took a point of personal privilege to, on behalf of his fellow Senators, thank Chair Embree and Secretary LaDonne Delgado for their year of service.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator D'Abramo moved, Senator Crowell seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Submitted for correction and approval.

LaDonne Delgado, Secretary