

6-5-2015

Faculty Senate Minutes, June 5, 2015

USM Faculty Senate

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**The University of Southern Mississippi
Meeting Of the Faculty Senate
Cook Library 123/Hardy Hall 219
June 5, 2015**

Members Present and Represented (by proxy): M. Alford, J. Anderson, T. Barry, D. Booth, D. Capper, K. Davis, B. Green, K. Greene, M. Grivno, C. Handley, B. Hayden, F. Heitmuller (M. Alford), L. Inglesias (M. Naquin), L. Hill, D. Holt, J. Lambers, P. Linden, M. McLelland, E. Molaison, M. Naquin, L. Neelis, W. Odom (K. Greene), J. Olmi (T. Barry), P. Price, L. Rackoff, T. Rehner (E. Molaison), S. Reischman-Fletcher (J. Anderson), S. Rouse (B. Green), C. Tardy, B. Tinnon, T. Welsh (D. Booth), M. Van Norden, K. Zantow

Members Absent: C. Miller, B. Harbaugh, R. Buchanan, R. Griffitt, S. Hrostowski, H. Lyn, C. McCormick, O. Harvey, K. Rhinehart, C. Sirola, J. White

Guests: Amy Miller, Steven Moser, Doug Masterson, Karen Reidenback

1.0 The meeting was called to order by Pres. Anderson at 2:05 PM.

2.0 The agenda was approved by Pres. Anderson with no objection.

3.0 The May minutes were approved by Pres. Anderson with no objection.

4.0 Officer Reports

4.1 Pres. Anderson

4.1.1 Pres. Anderson proposed changes to faculty senate committee organizational structure in an effort to reduce duplication of effort. A chart was provided to the senate to study and comment before the September meeting. Pres. Anderson will request approval to form a Governance Committee and an Academics Committee during the September meeting.

These changes include:

Academic and governance will become separate committees

Other committees will be Awards, Finance, Bylaws, Elections, Handbook, and University Relations.

The Elections and Awards committees need chairs.

University Welfare and Environmental Concerns will move to a special committee.

Current Committees that will no longer exist include Research & Scholarship, Student Life, and Teaching & Service.

Communications will complete current projects and will dissolve. Future communications issues will be handled by the offices of the Secretary and Secretary-Elect with assistance from others as needed.

- 4.1.2 Pres. Anderson also stated that the budget request has been presented for finalization and that Cook Library room 123 room is free and has been booked for meetings next year.
- 4.1.3 Pres. Anderson also reminded the senate that anonymous concerns expressed on the Faculty Senate Website will be presented to the President.
- 4.1.4 The fall retreat for Faculty Senate will be August 14, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. The location is to be determined.

4.3 Secretary-Elect – No Report

4.0 Remarks from Administration

4.1 Interim Provost Steve Moser

4.1.1 Question and Answer Session

Senator Tardy asked what to expect that will be different

Dr. Moser answered there will be the same issues: faculty pay, etc.

4.2 Vice President for Finance and Administration Doug Vinzant

4.2.1 Senator asked why there were big raises for internal research.

Dr. Vinzant answered that some positions were eliminated and combined with existing positions in order to stop the duplication of efforts. The added responsibilities for these expanded positions justified the increase in pay. He further stated that they still did not reach the CUPA Averages. Instead they got salary adjustments for this increased work load. In addition, they were also recruited and received offers with promotions from other institutions.

It is cheaper to keep qualified people; than the cost for new hires. Many of positions on Coast were eliminated or/not refilled as the responsibilities were shifted to existing faculty of this campus. Dr. Vinzant further stated that Administrative salary adjustments were for change of scope of responsibilities.

Dr. Vinzant discussed improvement to the practice field that includes resurfacing, fencing, sprinkler system or change to a synthetic field (less expensive), storage, fence, bandstand. Existing fee in place to use for the field (\$1,000,000 for all of the changes); getting some of money from profit by Payne Center (it is paid for).

4.2.1.1 Amended statement sent by Dr. Vinzant (June 10, 2015)

In reference to the question I received at last week's Faculty Senate meeting about Pride Field, I want to update the information I provided on Friday. The structure is the same as what I described, but the amounts are slightly different.

As I mentioned, there are three separate projects related to improvements at Pride Field:

1. Lighting improvements (*completed*) (\$295K)
2. Bandstand (~\$200K)
3. Field re-surfacing and fence (~\$950K)

There will be about \$800K left over in the Payne Center improvements account after payments are completed for the work associated w/ that project. Additional revenue needed would come from leaving the existing allocation of student fees in place for the next two years (\$18 / semester UG + Grd Hattiesburg only). The fee generates ~\$350K per year, so it would need to remain dedicated to this project through FY 2018.

4.2.2 Dr. Vinzant also discussed the implementation of access fees; these fees will not be in place this fall and we will continue with the decal system for parking. There is not enough time to implement access fees by fall. With these funds parking, transit systems, safety, appearance and lighting will be improved. Hattiesburg rates will not change next year. Everyone on the Gulf Park campus will get an increase to \$75 from \$44 for improvements on the campus.

- Revenue raised on each campus will be used on that campus
- Adjunct faculty will not be charged.
- Under 21K – lower rate
- Over 21K – higher rate.

Senator asked about paying for parking at special events – frequently do not get number of attendees until last minute.

Dr. Vinzant did not know and requested contact by the Senator to address at later date.

Dr. Vinzant stated that the Faculty Senate Finance Committee is very important and he values their input.

5.0 Dr. Douglas Masterson, Student Assessment update from Student Success Implementation Team

Required faculty, students, staff, and administration

A lot of other people involved

Amy Miller new Provost for academic success

\$60K fund proposals for student success – chose 8 of we did \$58K

www.usm.edu/success.
Monday afternoon reading group

Senator asked a question about students who work and how to assist
Dr. Masterson answered maybe textbook scholarship:
- advisement (do not overload)
- not much we can do.

Senators gave Dr. Masterson a round of applause for the work of the Student Success Implementation Team.

5.0 Request for Senate Consent for Senate Appointments

5.1 Mary Coyne (GC) – from Collaborative Nursing Care – term expires in 2016
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

5.2 Kyna Shelley (CoEP) – term expires in 2016
Approved by unanimous voice vote.

6.0 Committee Reports

6.1 Finance

Sen. Zantow reported that they were working on recommendations from the last meeting and that they need more members.

6.2 Handbook

Sen. Davis reported on the evaluation of teaching and that some use only student evaluations but we need university-wide evaluations

6.2.1 Proposed – units use student evaluations as one part but also use some type of colleague-based evaluation – with reflective statement

- Peer evaluation: observation in a classroom or videotape of class
- Teaching portfolio

Both require more time and more work for teaching evaluation.
Senator commented that we don't want to micromanage the classroom

Upon request by a Senator, a straw poll was taken and language for the handbook was approved.

6.3 Communication

Sen. Tardy reported that the information process must be based on objective evidence and student comments should not be used exclusively. If faculty evaluate each other, concern was expressed that it would be objective.

Provost's view is that we adopt a portfolio or could add peer-review as an option.

7.0 Old Business – None

8.0 New Business

8.1 A motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules and approve a resolution of commendation and appreciation for Provost Wiesenburg.

Sen Barry moved to approve the resolution and Sen. Alford seconded. The resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote.

8.2 A motion was made and seconded to suspend the rules and approve a resolution of commendation and appreciation for Dr. Joe Paul.

Sen. Davis moved to approve the resolution and Sen. Alford seconded. The resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote.

9.0 The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm by unanimous voice vote.