

Present: Peter Rolnick, Nabil Alghalith, Bryce Jones, Susan LaGrassa, Terry Olson, Kathryn Brammall, Scott Olsen, Jennifer Thompson, Daniel McGurk, Doug Davenport, Pam Gardner, Lucy Lee, Alec Koch, John Bohac, Jim Pauls, Clifton Kreps, Adam Davis, Dana Delaware, Candy Young, James Guffey, Matt Szewczyk, Chris Maglio and Jana Morton

CALL TO ORDER

J. Guffey called the meeting to order on February 28, 2008 at 3:10 pm.

IDENTIFICATION OF ALTERNATES & THOSE CARRYING TWO VOTES

Carrying two votes: John Bohac & Pam Gardner

Alternate: Clifton Kreps

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by D. Delaware to approve the minutes with the removal of the word “an” under the FS Report. P. Rolnick seconded the motion to approve the minutes with this change. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed.

REPORTS

President’s Report – The President was unable to attend.

Student Senate Report – Matt Szewczyk discussed “Storm the Capital” the textbook transparency law which require publishers to provide price and other information to professors.

He reported that Student Senate has passed a resolution requesting the President to reconvene the campus safety committee in wake of NIU and Virginia Tech.

MAFS Report – Kathryn Brammall noted that under Old Business the following things were discussed:

- 1) Survey – Traits of Effective Faculty Senates - MAFS is interested in learning details of faculty governance at the various universities in Missouri. Two vehicles were created to survey faculty senate presidents and chief academic officers of universities. 1) objective, ten question survey that will be circulated to all faculty senate chairs/presidents. Those individuals will be asked to respond and also pass it along to their presidents/provosts for their responses; 2) series of subjective multiple choice questions to be placed as a resource on MAFS website rather than circulated. It is hoped that this document will provide a starting place for faculty senates interested in surveying their own faculty.
- 2) Release time for senate officers - MAFS passed the resolution *Support Levels for Faculty Senate/Council Officers* supporting release time (or comparable compensation) for Missouri Faculty Senate Executive officers.

MAFS also heard reports from AAUP, MNEA, DHE and COPHE.

The full MAFS report can be viewed on the Faculty Senate web page.

Undergraduate Council Report – Candy Young reported that UGC had a lively discussion of the A & S Group report, comments were all “over the map,” a lot of sentiment that we need to be better about communicating what we do.

There was discussion of governance (frequent sentiment was that each department needed representative on councils, even small ones where it might prove an onerous duty), short discussion of proportionality (consensus was this might make councils too big), “everyone is finding it much more difficult to communicate with who they represent,” therefore, it almost must be that reps come from departments.

There was a question raised from Student Senate regarding status of their motion to have syllabi available online, UGC did discuss this but no action to date.

A. Davis reminded us that university policy says a syllabus for every course and every faculty member is filed each semester. He also noted that the Higher Learning Commission has asked that this be done. Some members raised concerns about posting syllabi online but others suggested that they have no objections and some already do this. Candy stated that this didn’t go over well with UGC. M. Szewczyk asked that Faculty Senate members have discussions about this in their departments to help support this issue.

Faculty Senate Report – J. Guffey reported Troy Paino was on campus late last month and that he and D. Johnson had a good meeting talking about function and role of FS.

J. Guffey asked J. Thompson when the Staff Survey would be distributed and she stated that hopefully by Spring Break.

J. Guffey reported on the evaluation of the president – He and S. Olsen continue to develop it, both “essential elements”: longitudinal and “initiative elements”. They have also added things related to current issues. A discussion followed and questions will be circulated to FS reps for comment. It was agreed to use a paper form instead of the on-line option.

Sabbatical Review Committee: They are working on getting the committee updated so that all three colleges are represented.

J. Guffey asked C. Maglio to report on the Tenure and Promotion Committee: The committee has met and gone through everything that has been submitted. They have not heard from six departments yet and have sent out emails to four of them but haven’t heard anything. Three departments have submitted their copy (Chemistry, AGS, Math), 11 needed minor revisions and 3 needed significant work. The latter group will be contacted by a member of the committee who will meet with someone on the departmental committee. It was suggested that departments should have discussion so that a close standard is set. A long discussion followed but no decision was made.

J. Guffey asked D. McGurk to report on the emergency preparedness plan. A copy of the ITAC Report from Feb 25, 2008 was presented. D. McGurk noted that IT and Public Safety have met regarding some of the issues. They have discussed emergency text messaging system but it hasn’t been used yet but a test is planned in the next few weeks. This option wasn’t used for the Dobson incident because Public Safety felt it wasn’t an incident that involved the whole campus. It was asked “didn’t Virginia Tech begin in a single hall?”

Some believe there needs to be a system for updating web pages more quickly in wake of that incident. There also is interest in allowing certain people with the ability to access the system through a PDA in case they can't get to a desk/browser (which is currently required). A suggestion was made that perhaps we should use a siren that tells people to lock down since not everyone carries cell phones and often they are turned off in class. It may be wise to reconvene this committee. We should find out about this committee: whose committee is this, who is on it?

Instructor rating committee needs to be seated: S. Olson, C. Young, but no other volunteers yet. They need to begin meeting soon.

A group of faculty want the University to offer Roth 403B plan, similar to traditional 403B but you can pay taxes up front and then not when the dollars are withdrawn. Todd Hammond is willing to take the lead and write up a proposal. Faculty Senators should approach faculty and ask anyone interested in helping with this to contact him. It was suggested that he approach the Benefits Advisory Committee.

ACTION ITEMS - No items.

DISCUSSION ITEMS - • Emily Brooker – Draft 5

- P. Rolnick noted that it's really good but has a few suggestions. A. Davis stated that he will accept the changes as "friendly".
- T. Olson stated that these documents seem to emphasize only when there is grave (ie grade) impact. We already do a lot more to ensure that these kind of safety features are in place (ie course evaluations, every class, every term). A. Davis stated that his committee wanted to make sure that no window was left for students to make complaints that would allow a "heckler" to interfere with a class in progress, ie any complaints would be made at the end of term. T. Olson's concern was do we only give students rights when their grade is impacted but does this sanction inappropriate treatment that doesn't impact grade?
- S. LaGrassa has problems with "grade appeal" part of this bill, the current language is a problem - it should say 14 days to initiate the appeal "**at the department**" rather than "**with the instructor.**" A. Davis agreed and will make appropriate language change throughout.

A motion was made by P. Rolnick to extend the meeting for 5 minutes; D. Delaware seconded. All were in favor.

- Is it possible for a grade to be changed without a faculty member being informed; answer yes and this is the way that it has always been. It's an issue separate from this bill/resolution. Can something be included to ensure that the faculty member is informed?
- D. Davenport suggests that his first action would be to approach a faculty member and so this doesn't happen, but that currently he relies upon good will. Faculty consultation/notification is nowhere guaranteed at present.
- B. Jones and others will email specific suggestions for changes to A. Davis.
- S. LaGrassa suggests that we get a clean copy (once changes are made) so that we can discuss it with our faculty before we go any further.
- Where do we go with this? If the grade appeal process stays in bill then it should be brought to chairs for input?
- This does not really change any policy, but makes it clearer.

These were included in error and do not require discussion.

- SB 2307 - JINS 384 Cultural Crossroads: Salvador
- SB 2407 - JINS 386 Cultural Crossroads: American West

CONSENT ITEMS - No items.

INFORMATION ITEMS – All items were approved without objection.

- SB 2507 - JINS 345 From Page to Stage and Screen
- SB 2607 - JINS 385 Children's Lit & Contro Issues
- SB 2707 - JINS 383 Years of Change: 1968
- SB 2807 - Changes to Folklore Minor

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by P. Rolnick to adjourn the meeting, all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 5.10 pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 27, 3:00 p.m. in VH 1424