

MAFS Report  
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10/10/2005

Robert Stein from DHE spoke to the group about the disorganization within MAFS and the need to develop a vision and purpose for the organization if we wanted our voice to be heard.

10/11/2005

Jeanie Crain (former MAFS President) led a discussion about the future direction of MAFS. Some suggestions included:

- Changing the constitution to a 2-year term for the president and president elect (which results in a 4-year commitment) to encourage more consistency
- Having as many as 4 members of MAFS from each institution
- Appointing a MAFS liaison to DHE
- Establishing a permanent office
- Updating the webpage and appointing a webmaster for 3 years
- Following the constitution by requiring a 30-day notice for all business
- Submitting all senate reports 30 days prior to meetings.

After extensive discussion, a committee was established to draft new constitution language changing the office of President elect to Vice President to facilitate reelection of officers if desired.

Every member senate must have a designated voter and an alternate voting representative. These people should be identified on the member senate's webpage, and the address should be provided to MAFS for links on their site.

Jeremy Kintzel from DHE-Academic Affairs spoke about some developments at the DHE:

- A consortium in its early stages is studying moving toward the idea of Value-Added Assessment
- The Committee on Transfer and Articulation is investigating "transfer friendly" practices and the problems experienced by proprietary school students seeking to transfer credit to Missouri institutions
- Information was distributed regarding cycle 4 of the Improving Teacher Quality grants
- A report, "Greater Expectations" is available free on the AACU website and is highly recommended to anyone in higher education.

Each school gave a brief report about developments in the last year. Full reports will be available on the MAFS website. In general, most schools received no or very little increase in faculty pay, are paying more for insurance, and have recently replaced one or more key members of their administration.

Senator Chuck Graham spoke about the current state of higher education. He believes the legislators do not understand higher education and do not distinguish between the

missions and scopes of various schools. He said we are not organized in our lobbying efforts and are “factionalized.” He sees legislators as problem solvers and believes we would accomplish more if we could show them the problems we want fixed. He is skeptical about the recommendations made by the Governor’s Commission to reorganize higher education.

Business Meeting:

- Although no minutes were available, they were passed without amendment.
- A proposal to endorse two AAUP documents (1940 Statement on Principle of Academic Freedom and Tenure and 1966 Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities) failed when no one could remember why we were endorsing these documents or what our endorsement would mean.
- A proposal to coordinate a legislative session visit in the spring with representatives from AAUP passed.
- The rules were suspended and a motion passed to endorse the COPHE Recommendations Toward a Stronger System of Higher Education in Missouri presented to the Governor’s Commission.
- A previous proposal to endorse a formula for funding higher education was misplaced and hence not acted upon.