

**ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE  
UNCORRECTED MINUTES OF MEETING ON FEBRUARY 9, 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, February 9, 2001.

Members absent and excused were Sylvia Byrd, Linda Cornelious, Jackie Courson, Virgil Culver, Keith Hodge, Bill Maslin, Nancy McCarley, Sue Minchew, James Thomas and Clyde Williams.

Members absent and unexcused were Thomas Carskadon, Kathy Dooley, Jim Heitz, David Huddleston, Pearson Liddell, Rachel McCann, and Rick Travis.

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](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 January 19, 2000, Regular Meeting as distributed. Senator Light moved, Senator Crowell seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the minutes of January 19, 2000. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Chair Embree introduced a new member of the Senate: taking Dr. Sharon Black's place is Dr. Roy Montgomery.

**GUESTS**

Chair Embree introduced guests of the Senate: President Malcolm Portera; Dr. David Cole, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dr. Kirk Arnett, Faculty Athletic Representative.

**MALCOLM PORTERA, PRESIDENT**

Dr. Portera provided the following information:

- < Portera sent the adjusted budget papers to the State Budget Office this morning. They showed the proposed 5.3% cut (\$6 million dollars).

- < Senator Crowell asked about the vacant study skills teaching position in the Learning Center. Portera responded that he would find out why this position had not been filled and report back to the Senate.
- < Senator Crowell then asked that Portera please explain issues to the faculty and ask for consensus in that manner and not on the basis of patriotism as he had done with the state flag issue.
- < Portera remarked on the parking situation on the Saturdays of football games. An appointed committee will look into this issue, and Senator D'Abramo will serve on it.

### **DAVID COLE, PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

Provost Cole had no additional remarks.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

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

- < Embree reported a success story -- At the last Senate meeting, a resolution was passed that the MSU administration should immediately investigate the problem of inadequate financial assistance in support of scholarly activities for some faculty members and possible inequities pertaining to the allocation of these funds. On February 8<sup>th</sup>, Embree met with Senator Pote and Vice President for Research Altenkirch and worked out the final wording of an announcement which will be sent to all faculty within the next few days. It announces the establishment of a special fund to be called the "Special Research/Scholarship Fund" which will be located in the Office of Research and contain \$100,000 in it per year (not taken out of E&G funds but from overhead, indirect cost recovery money). Grants will be made from that fund up to \$2,000 and faculty may begin to apply for this money on March 1, 2001.
- < Spring Roundtable membership is almost set. Announcement forthcoming.
- < Portera has already mentioned the ad hoc committee on Saturday parking during football games.
- < In reference to the new "Special Research/Scholarship Fund," Senator Crowell asked who and how would a project be determined worthy of funding. Embree responded that the process was designed to be very simple; no deadlines, no forms, no committees. Applicants must first go through their Department Head and Dean who, as the request goes up the chain of command, must state if they think the project is a good idea and what they have contributed, if anything, in the way of money to the

project. That does not mean that requests will not be funded if the Dean or Department Head contributed no funds. It just gives these administrators a chance to state why they didn't or couldn't contribute to this project. The Vice President for Research will make the final decision on awards from this fund. Please note that the less a faculty member asks for, the more likely he or she is to receive an award.

- < In reference to the new "Special Research/Scholarship Fund," Senator D'Abramo asked if there was a formal form and what was the expected turn-around time. Embree responded that there was no formal request form and that the turn-around time could be as quick as 1-2 days if the faculty member walked the request through the various chain of command levels. Chair Embree then reported that the Office of Research has been doing this very thing for some time but not in this exact way with a special fund set aside as it is now.
- < Senator Schoenholtz asked if there had been any further discussion about the possible reinstatement of the Graduate School. Embree responded that Portera had remarked at the last University Faculty Meeting of his desire to reinvigorate the Graduate School. At this point, no specific plan has been developed. When this happens, Portera says that it will be with the assistance of the faculty.

### **REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR**

Vice Chair D'Abramo referred to the Robert Holland Faculty Senate Vice Chair's Report as distributed. He commented on the Traffic Policy Committee's discussion about the parking problem on the Saturdays of home football games stating that this matter has been taken out of the committee's hands and given to an ad hoc committee specifically formed to respond to this problem.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Memo from Dr. Walter Diehl re: Resolution concerning state flag** -- Senator Diehl moved, Senator Light seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate endorse the following resolution concerning the state flag: The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University urges the People of Mississippi to adopt the new state flag.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 26-0-5.

### **DR. KIRK ARNETT, FACULTY ATHLETIC REPRESENTATIVE**

Dr. Arnett referred to his handout as provided to the Senators.

- < Senator Embree asked if the parking and security funds came out of E&G money. Dr. Arnett responded that he was not sure but assumed this to be true.
- < Senator Diehl asked how the \$39,122 cost per athlete from 2000-2001 budget compared to other universities. Dr. Arnett responded that this was one of the figures he could not get a handle on because each institution reported their figures in a different manner.
- < Senator Embree asked if it was true that the Athletic Department can control whether they make a profit by how they expend dollars at the end of the fiscal year (i.e. raises). Dr. Arnett said yes.

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### **BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEES**

**AOP 13.02 - Selection of William L. Giles Distinguished Professors** -- Chair Embree assigned this issue to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

### **REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

No report.

### **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

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

Senator Donohoe, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report on AOP 13.14 - Grade Appeal and Academic Review Board. Senator Donohoe moved, Senator Salin seconded, that the Senate approve AOP 13.14 with the changes as listed in their report and the corresponding Grade Appeal Form.

Senator Kelly offered a friendly amendment pertaining to the recommendation's point three, third sentence, to change "past charges" to "past appeals" and this admendment was accepted by the Committee.

Senator Bridges offered a friendly amendment pertaining to the recommendation's point four, second sentence, to omit "against the instructor" and this admendment was accepted by the Committee.

Senator Morse moved, Senator Diehl seconded, that the rules be suspended so that the representative from the student body, Stephen Sansing (sitting in for Jenny Reeves) could speak. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate. Mr. Sansing presented his comments about the appeal process as mentioned in this recommendation.

Chair Donohoe corrected a typographical error in the recommendation's point eight changing "C.5.g." to "C.5.h."

Senator Embree offered a friendly amendment pertaining to the recommendation's point ten, to change the phrase "If appealed" which begins the third and fifth sentences to read "If the decision is appealed" and this admendment was accepted by the Committee.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 26-0-0.

#### **CHARTER AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Senator Light moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded, that the rules be suspended so the Senate may considered the report of the Faculty Affairs Committee.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 24-0-1.

Senator Light moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the report from the Faculty Affairs Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Light referred to this Committee's report on AOP 13.02 - Selection of William L. Giles Distinguished Professors. Senator Light, moved, Senator Smyer seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate concur with the proposed changes in AOP 13.02 and make the following modification: delete commas but add parentheses around (Chair) after Vice President for Research in the first full paragraph on page two of the AOP. The committee's recommendation, however, does not indicate support for a general precedent to expand the review time of other AOPs beyond the usual biennial period.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 24-0-2.

#### **STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

No report.

## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES**

Senator Pote moved, Senator Light seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the report from the University Resources Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Pote, Chair of the University Resources Committee, referred to this Committee's report on Dr. Clyde Williams' letter requesting that the Senate study the current administration's budget practices with particular emphasis on the role of faculty participation in the current budgetary deliberations. Senator Pote moved, Senator Diehl seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate endorse the following recommendations:

1. The administration should ensure that there is consistent Faculty Senate involvement in the budgetary process in those areas underscored in the "Budget Process and Time Lines, 2000-2001." As is stated in the governance document, "representatives chosen by the faculty, staff, and students should be included in university level discussions of resource allocation and budgetary policy and procedures."
2. Any major budgetary changes that occur during a fiscal year such as budgetary cuts or increases and the resulting reallocation or allocation of funds needs to involve the Faculty Senate for discussion and input. This involvement should include "early discussions," jointly formulated procedures for consultation, reasonable deadlines within the constraints of the academic calendar, access to appropriate information, adequate feedback and timely communication of decisions to the affected constituencies" as outlined in the governance documents pertaining to "Consultation."
3. Any "updates" that may occur in the "five year strategic plan" should be subjected to input from the Robert Holland Faculty Senate during the discussion of these updates, prior to any implementation that may occur with the revised plan.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 25-0-1.

## **ANCILLARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Senator Morse moved, Senator Light seconded, that the 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 on document titled "Affirmative Action Compliance Program" (Final Draft for Executive Review). This document remains a working draft, with Ms. Jernagin still in the process of obtaining feedback from various constituents on campus. A copy of this report is available in the Faculty Senate office for review by interested senators. The Ancillary Affairs Committee has requested a final revised copy for additional review prior to the final approval by the University administration. No action required by the Senate.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Kelly moved, Senator Schoenholtz seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Submitted for correction and approval.

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LaDonne Delgado, Secretary