

ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE UNCORRECTED MINUTES OF MEETING ON OCTOBER 8, 2004

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular meeting in the Ballroom of the Colvard Student Union at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 8, 2004.

Members absent and excused were Michael Berk, Thomas Cathcart, Paula Dohoney, Ted Kohers, Randy Little, PC McLaurin, Paul Thaxton, Mark Zappi, and Adam Telle.

Members absent and unexcused were Marita Gootee, Allen Greenwood, and James Martin.

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.facultysenate.msstate.edu>.

President Mark Goodman called the meeting to order.

President Goodman referred to the minutes of the September 10, 2004, Regular Meeting as distributed. Senator Bryant moved, Senator Montgomery seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the minutes of September 10, 2004. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

GUESTS

President Goodman introduced guests: Dr. Peter Rabideau, Provost; Mr. Butch Stokes, Registrar; and Dr. Kirk Arnett, Faculty Athletic Representative.

PETER RABIDEAU, PROVOST

Provost Rabideau provided the following information:

- Happy Homecoming!
- Rabideau acknowledged the hard work of Tim Chamblee, his committee and the Senate on the 124 hour issue.
- Another IHL Board issue is the post tenure review issue. Southern Mississippi had many more reports of negative reviews than any of the other IHL institutions. President Thames made a public statement saying that an error was made and that the numbers sent to the IHL Board pertaining to post tenure reviews did not reflect the negative post tenure reviews, but reflected if a faculty had received a one-out-of-three negatives (either for teaching, research, or service...but not an overall negative) during their recent post tenure reviews.
- There are four dean's searches going on: Dean of the Bagley College of Engineering, Dean of the College of Education, Dean of the College of Forest Resources and Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine.
- A series of Brown Bags will be sponsored by the Provost's Office. The first will be on October 27, 2004, in the Grisham Room of the Mitchell Memorial Library and the topic

will be MSU's Honors Program. The second brown bag will be on 'learning communities' and the date and time will be announced later.

- Senator Walter Diehl asked if the 124 hour degree changes in programs will be implemented in the Fall of 2005 and Rabideau responded yes.
- Senator Walter Diehl then asked about the split commencement for this Fall and where the idea came to have one on a Friday night at 7:00 p.m. Rabideau responded that this was not his idea, but that parents like to see their sons and daughters come across the stage at graduation, shake someone's hand and receive their diplomas. The only way to do this was to split commencement into two events. Rabideau would like to see the two commencements split into an undergraduate and a graduate commencement, but for this time, it will be split with one-half of the colleges and schools at each commencement.
- Senator Dunaway stated that he is currently chairing a search committee for a faculty position and on the date scheduled to start reviewing the applications, there were only 10 when, in past years, there could have been as many as 50 applications. Their department and this committee are receiving numerous complaints about the difficulty of submitting applications via the new automated online system. He then asked if Rabideau was aware that faculty applications must be submitted in this manner and, if so, of the problems this is causing and how this can be fixed to relieve the obvious low recruitment. Rabideau responded that yes, he was aware that faculty applications were now being taken via the online system but was not aware of any problems with the system until recently. He stated that if there are problems with this system, let's change it.
- Senator Adams-Price stated that Rabideau mentioned earlier about recruiting gifted undergraduate students and asked if the system is working the way it is supposed to in terms of contacting those undergraduates who are highly qualified. Rabideau responded that he is not sure that MSU has been as aggressive as it should pertaining to recruiting these students or any students and that this needs to be corrected because we are missing an opportunity.
- Senator Wood returned to the issue of applicants submitting their information via the online system and asked if search committees could consider paper copies of applications if they were submitted and Rabideau said yes.
- Senator D'Abramo asked how much consideration was given to faculty participation when the decision was made to split commencement and would this division help attendance. Rabideau responded that faculty attendance is an issue, but having a commencement so large that it could violate fire codes is more of an issue.
- Senator Deeds asked if MSU could pay for commencement regalia. Rabideau stated that he would check into this.

BUTCH STOKES, REGISTRAR

Mr. Stokes provided the following information:

- Mr. Stokes mentioned that one of the reasons that the two split commencement ceremonies are not both on Saturday this year is because MSU has a basketball game that evening. In May 2005, both ceremonies will be on Saturday – at 10am and 3pm.

- Senator Walter Diehl asked if there would be two different commencement speakers and Stokes responded yes.
- Stokes mentioned that during the May ceremonies, the coliseum sometimes is so full that there are safety issues.
- Mr. Stokes referred to his handout pertaining to “On Campus” which is the MSU web portal and explained the new changes and upcoming changes scheduled for Spring 2005. Also included in the handout were examples of the Transfer Articulation Agreement between MSU and other Mississippi colleges and universities.
- Degree Audit, also known as Curriculum Advising and Program Planning (CAPP) – currently working on system components for Degree Audit for several programs.
- The Registrar’s Office is looking at the services they provide and how they provide them (online, 24/7, etc.). Examples of services are enrollment verification, good student discounts, and full-time/part-time status. These services are now on the web. They are also looking at moving transcript ordering to the web site using a tracking system similar to a mail order company.
- The vice presidents approved the purchase of an imaging system. This should make service quicker, better, and the processing of incoming students (especially transfer students) faster. Later in the future would be the possibility of withdrawal forms, leave forms, etc. to also be online and the routing of documents between offices to be possible.
- Senator Walter Diehl stated that the process for getting students registered looks like it will be a great improvement using the new web system.
- Senator Susan Diehl stated that she went to the MSU Banner web site to look up a student’s transcript and it told her that she had to go the Portal. Transcripts may be accessed via the Banner system or the new Portal system. There is some student information, such as their address, that can only be accessed via the new Portal system.
- Senator Dunaway asked if the Registrar’s Office would be dispensing with the pre-registration forms (the two-page advising form). Stokes stated that they would still be using these forms. Senator Hodges stated that he likes using this form as a paper record to validate their discussion with the student.

KIRK ARNETT, FACULTY ATHLETIC REPRESENTATIVE

Provost Rabideau provided the following information:

- This is Arnett’s last meeting as the Faculty Athletic Representative, a position which he has held for the past seven years.
- Arnett referred to his handout and explained the information given.
- Senator Walter Diehl asked Arnett had any news about the NCAA’s forthcoming sanctions and Arnett stated that he did not.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Goodman referred to his report as distributed and added the following remarks:

- Financially, MSU is fairly stable after having had several declining years. The only hopeful way to add new revenue to the budget seems to be in recruiting new students and increasing the student body. Student Affairs is working on a new marketing campaign for encouraging student to attend MSU.
- Jeanne Swafford is the Faculty Senate designate on the new Faculty Advisory Group that will be advising Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. William Kibler.
- Senator D'Abramo asked what percentage increase in enrollment is anticipated and Goodman responded that he was not aware of any set percentage.

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

Vice President Wood referred to his report as distributed and added the following remarks:

- At the last Deans Council, Vice President Scanes made a brief presentation regarding research issues and redistributing overhead funding. Rabideau will be working closely with Scanes to develop a new structure for releasing overhead funds back to the departments and/or principal investigator.
- The Fall Roundtable will be held on Tuesday, October 19, 2004, at Plymouth Bluff, MS.
- Senator Henington asked if there would be a ceiling on the return of overhead to departments and Wood responded that the target would be negotiated.
- Senator Henington then asked where the unreturned funding would go and Wood responded that he was unsure.
- Senator Walter Diehl commented that having MSU use an incentive program model implemented by USM whose research accomplishments are a fraction of MSU's seems ludicrous.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

University Benefits Committee – Senator Nebeker reported recent flyers distributed to MSU employees about health savings accounts and the upcoming open enrollment. There will be no flu shots on campus this year. MSU may receive 2,500 doses of the flu shot but it will be used only at the Health Center. Senator Adams-Price asked if that meant there would be no flu shots at all or if the shots would only be for high risk cases and Nebeker responded that they would be for high risk cases only.

Campus Planning and Development Committee – Senator Deeds reported that this committee met recently to look over the overall campus plan, what adjustments have already been made to the plan, and what adjustments are to be made in the near future. Some older dorms are scheduled to come down while the groundbreaking will soon happen for a new dorm to be open by next Fall. The College of Engineering is doing a study on traffic flow which should be helpful to this committee. There was also discussion of turning 'five-points' into a rotary section. If Senators have any comments pertaining to any of these issues, please let Deeds know.

BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEES

None.

BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEES

Letter from Dr. Gilbert, re: AOP 10.02 Academic Administrators – President Goodman assigned this issue to the Academic Affairs Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

ANCILLARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

Senator Montgomery, chair of the Ancillary Affairs Committee, did ask if Senators had any comments or suggestions to assist the committee in their work on the University Promotion and Tenure document to please send those to the committee now.

CHARTER AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report.

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Hodge, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report on AOP 12.15: Academic Probation. Senator Hodge moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded, that the Senate approve AOP 12.15 with the following modification:

That the last sentence paragraph should read,

“After having been notified of probationary status, a student must schedule an appointment with his/her academic advisor or with the departmental probationary advisor (if the department has a probationary advisor) to devise a plan to improve the student's academic performance.”

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 35-0-0.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Walter Diehl moved, Senator Reichert seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Submitted for correction and approval.

LaDonne Delgado, Secretary