



## **ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE**

### **Uncorrected Minutes of November 11, 2022**

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular monthly meeting in Bost Auditorium North at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, November 11, 2022.

Members absent and excused were Rachel Allison, Todd Archer, Mike Breazeale, Heejin Cho, Skip Jack, Michael Jaffe, Cheryl Justice, Stephanie King, Sol Pelaez, Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, Amanda Stone, Chinling Wang, Molly Zuckerman.

Members absent were Alicia Hall, Jesse Morrison, Sorina Popescu, Paul Tseng, and Kimberly Wood.

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Jason Barrett.

President Barrett said he received one correction to the minutes that Senator Marshall was excused for the October meeting and the minutes will reflect this change. President Barrett asked for any additional corrections to the minutes of the October 7, 2022, meeting. Hearing no corrections, President Barrett accepted the minutes as presented.

### **GUESTS**

#### **Dr. Mark Keenum, University President**

Dr. Keenum said he started his day with several meetings in his office and then went to Betterworth Auditorium for Fall Preview Days. He said the auditorium was completely filled with 500 prospective students and their families. He said it was wonderful to be able to welcome them to our campus.

Dr. Keenum said prior to this meeting he also had the opportunity to meet with the Bulldog Club. The Bulldog Club is our Foundation board that provides support for our athletics programs. Dr. Keenum said our second women's basketball game will be held tonight in

Humphrey Coliseum. He said it will be a special game as we will be honoring LaToya Thomas, one of our all-time greats for women's basketball. Her banner will be ceremoniously lifted into place in the Hump.

Dr. Keenum said at 3:00 p.m. today, we will be hosting our first ever NCAA women's soccer tournament. Tomorrow, we will host the University of Georgia for our football game. Dr. Keenum said the University of Georgia football team is the reigning NCAA champions and are currently ranked first in the nation. This game will be our veteran's appreciation day. He said today is Veteran's Day and he thanks all veterans for their service to our country. Dr. Keenum said we held a Veteran's Day ceremony on the Drill Field yesterday to honor our nation's veterans and those who have served from our Bulldog family. Mississippi State University continues to be ranked in the top ten most veteran friendly universities in the nation. Colonel Brian Locke, Director, Veteran and Military Affairs, said we are ranked number two in the country. Dr. Keenum said he would like MSU to be considered the number one university in the nation in this regard.

Dr. Keenum said our Athletic Director, John Cohen, submitted his resignation effective October 31<sup>st</sup> to take the same position at Auburn University. He said Mississippi State University is thankful for Mr. Cohen's years of service to the university and what he did for our athletics program. He said he wishes him well at Auburn University. Dr. Keenum said we now begin the process to identify our next Athletic Director. He said he has been a part of the search for our last three Athletic Directors. Greg Byrne left us for the University of Arizona and is now serving as Athletic Director for the University of Alabama. Scott Stricklin is the Athletic Director for the University of Florida. Dr. Keenum said he has asked Bracky Brett, an over 20-year veteran of our Athletic Department, to serve as the interim Athletic Director until John Cohen's replacement can be identified. He said Bracky Brett is a very accomplished leader who is very well respected in the Southeastern Conference and the NCAA. Dr. Keenum said with Bracky Brett serving as our interim Athletic Director, four of the Athletic Directors in the SEC are Mississippi State University graduates. He said we have a track record of having good leaders and that is why they are sought after. Dr. Keenum said athletics, particularly on a SEC campus, is very important. It is important to the campus itself, our fan base, and our alumni. He said we want to be competitive as it brings attention to our university, such as when our baseball team won the national championship. Dr. Keenum said athletics is also big business. He said our Athletic Department operates on a budget of approximately \$125 to \$130 million. These revenues are projected to increase over time, so we need an individual who understands the business of college athletics. Dr. Keenum said he also wants an individual who can connect well with our fan base and understand our culture. He said he wants someone who can appreciate what it means to be part of the Mississippi State family. Our next Athletic Director will also have to understand fundraising and how to hire a coach. We have a great coaching staff, and

our Athletic Director needs to understand how to manage our coaches. The new Athletic Director will also have to be able to understand and manage the new college athletics landscape including NIL and the transfer portal. Dr. Keenum said most importantly, our new Athletic Director needs to be a proven leader who possesses integrity. Dr. Keenum said the search process will be very similar to the process utilized in the past and he is confident we will be successful moving forward. Dr. Keenum said he is not in a panic and will move through the process in a very thoughtful and methodical manner. He said he is hopeful we will have identified someone to lead our Athletic Department by early next year.

Dr. Keenum said the high school population across the country is projected to decline for the foreseeable future. The dramatic decline will be experienced in 2026. He said we are already seeing a little bit of this. Our enrollment numbers were released on November 1<sup>st</sup>, and we are down for the first time in eight years. We are the only university in the state of Mississippi that has seen record enrollment for seven consecutive years. Dr. Keenum said he was very pleased with our freshman numbers this year. They were essentially the same as last year. The decline was in the first-year masters programs. The MBA degree was dramatically down. Dr. Keenum said we are in good company on this front. Across the country there have been dramatic declines in MBA programs. Dr. Keenum said the rationale is that when the economy is strong and thriving, there are fewer people choosing to get their MBA. We experienced a huge increase in our enrollment for our MBA and other master programs in the fall of 2020. This is when the pandemic was in full effect and people were trying to give themselves opportunities when the economy improved. A lot of baccalaureate graduates are getting big signing bonuses to enter the workforce, so they are delaying their graduate studies. Dr. Keenum said another area of our enrollment which declined was our community college transfer students. He said this is common amongst all state universities as our community college enrollment numbers are decreasing and many of the students are going into technical training. Dr. Keenum said MSU is able to provide for students who want to advance their education with technical degrees through our new Bachelor's of Applied Science (BAS) degree which includes more than 40 different curricula. We currently have roughly 230 students in our BAS program. Dr. Keenum said we must continue to look for innovative ways to grow our enrollment. He said we are already partnering with the military and the Community College of the Air Force who provide education which matches very well with what we do. Cybersecurity and meteorology are great examples of this in which credits can be accepted and our service men and women can attain bachelor's degrees in these fields. Dr. Keenum said we have been working with an enrollment consultant for the past two years to help us develop our enrollment plan moving forward. Part of this initiative was to recognize that we are in a state of declining eligible high school graduates. This has led to the hiring of additional recruiters to expand our footprint in other states. In addition to more programs and expanded recruiting efforts, doing more for our current students to help them attain the goal of earning their degree is critical.

Dr. Keenum said we are looking towards our reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Our site visit will be conducted in February of 2024. Part of this reaffirmation process is to develop a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The last QEP emphasized writing skills across all disciplines. This time we will be looking to enhance the opportunities for our students to succeed through experiential learning. Fellow senator, Dr. Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, has agreed to lead this effort for the university. Dr. Keenum said we are already providing tremendous experiential learning opportunities for our students, but we want to create a more formalized approach and engrain experiential learning into our culture. The more students are engaged in their campus, the more likely they are to make it through the tough patches while they are a student and graduate.

Dr. Keenum said he is aware that there are always needs for improvement of our facilities. We also need new facilities. He said he was very excited when we cut the ribbon on our new music facility last week. He said this is a world-class, high-tech facility that has been sorely needed on our campus. Dr. Keenum said we are just a few pianos short of gaining recognition as a Steinway university. We will meet this goal and will become one of a small group of universities in the world to hold this distinction.

Dr. Keenum said we continue to improve Humphrey Coliseum. He said it is currently a construction site and asked that fans pardon our progress as we work to improve the facility. He said we will still be able to hold our commencement ceremonies in the facility in December. It is very likely that the construction process will prohibit the use of the facility for our spring commencement. As of now, the plan is to do an outdoor commencement in Davis Wade Stadium. This will not be the first time commencement was held in the stadium. The last notable time was when President George Herbert Walker Bush was the commencement speaker during Dr. Zacharias' tenure as University President.

Dr. Keenum said last month an announcement was made about the generous donation of \$15 million by Jim and Thomas Duff for our new Kinesiology, autism, and student support services facility. The plan is to build the facility just south of the McCarthy Gym. Kinesiology is the largest program at MSU, and we are a national leader in the field of autism. We are currently in the final stages of the design phase for the facility. Demolition of McCarthy Gym is slated for some time after commencement next year in order to begin preparing the site for construction of the new facility.

Dr. Keenum said the new high performance supercomputing facility has been designed and will be put up for bid in the very near future. We are currently fifth in the nation for supercomputing capabilities. The plan is to begin construction early next year. This project requires additional power needs for the new facility. We have been working with TVA who will

be building a new substation on North Farm to accommodate the additional power needs of the facility.

Dr. Keenum said things are still good in our state from an economic standpoint. The joint legislative budget committee recently raised our revenue estimates for the state by \$500 million for the remainder of the fiscal year. We began this fiscal year with a \$1.4 billion surplus. The October revenues of this year exceeded estimates by \$85 million. From the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1<sup>st</sup> through the month of October, state revenues have exceeded estimates by \$324 million. Revenue estimates prior to the beginning of this fiscal year were increased from \$6 billion to \$7 billion. Dr. Keenum said with the \$1.4 billion surplus, the \$324 million in additional realized revenues, and the over \$300 million in ARPA funds, the legislature has in excess of \$2 billion to spend next year. He said it could be more than that if the economy continues to perform well. Dr. Keenum said he will be in Jackson reminding our state leaders of the importance of what we do. He said the best thing they can do to make strategic investments, is to invest in higher education. An outside agency conducted a study and found that MSU generates a 130% return on funding received from the legislature. Dr. Keenum said we are one of the best investments our leaders can make. He said our employees need to be recognized and rewarded for the great work they do, and this will remain the number one priority.

Senator Gregory asked why the natural areas around Chadwick Lake were removed. President Keenum replied he would look into why the natural areas were removed.

Senator Gregory asked about the plans for the new College of Architecture, Art, and Design building. She said she has heard rumors that the Alumni Association and Foundation would be relocating to the Mill and a new free-standing building would be built to house the Grant collection and allow better access to the public. She said the new facility would be ideal to house the Walter Anderson Collection. Dr. Keenum said it is not finalized at this point, but the plan is to purchase the Hunter Henry Center from the Foundation and Alumni Association and renovate it to meet the needs of the college. The hope is that the Foundation will be able to acquire the MSU Mill. He said MSU owns the Mill and all the surrounding property, but the developer who helped create the Mill has a multi-decade lease on the property. If the Foundation can purchase this lease, it will make an ideal space for them to occupy. We will still be able to utilize the space for our convention needs if this happens. Dr. Keenum said the legal and contractual issues are currently still pending. He said he feels good that this will be able to be completed. Dr. Keenum said the plan is to also ask for funding for renovations to Howell Hall, which is also used by the College of Architecture, Art, and Design, in the coming legislative sessions.

Senator Rai asked what the new High Performance Supercomputing Center will look like. He asked if it will be similar to the existing building. Dr. Keenum replied that the focus of the design is on the function of the building and not the aesthetics. He said it will be built into the side of a hill which will be ideal for moving equipment and allow for space above and below the equipment. The design will allow for easy expansion in the future. Dr. Keenum said he is hopeful the bids will come back within budget, but he will ask our partners in the legislature for additional support if the costs are greater than anticipated. He said he is very excited about this project. The MSU supercomputer is linked with the Army Core of Engineers supercomputer in Vicksburg and the Stennis Space Center supercomputer giving Mississippi a ranking of fifth amongst all states for supercomputing capacity. Mississippi State University is leading this initiative and it is a testament to the productivity and prestige of our faculty that have allowed this to happen.

**Dr. David Shaw, Provost and Executive Vice President**

Dr. Shaw said he would like to thank the group working to include the IHL policy changes regarding tenure into our Faculty Handbook. He said he is very proud of the collegial manner in which these conversations are occurring. He said the encouraging thing to him is that we are looking for a way to honor the intent and expectation that IHL has given us while continuing to uphold the pillars of evaluation we already have.

Dr. Shaw said since his last update to the Faculty Senate there have been two task force reports posted to the Office of the Provost website. The first is the report from the Faculty Development Task Force. He said there was some great work done to identify how to address our student success needs, improve our learning outcomes, and do a better job of preparing faculty to do the best job in the educational process at MSU.

The second report is from the General Education Task Force. The work of the committee continued the great work done by Dr. Dana Franz at the request of Provost Bonner prior to Dr. Shaw entering the role of Provost. This group put a lot of emphasis on thinking about the learning outcomes we are expecting rather than a checklist of courses the students feel they must take. The whole idea behind the general education program is shifting with this report toward what the learning outcomes are for critical thinking skills and how can we reimagine what the general education program at MSU can be about.

Dr. Shaw encouraged the senators to read the reports. He said he would like to have further consideration of the committee reports by the Faculty Senate during the spring semester.

**Dr. Brent Fountain, Faculty Athletic Representative**

Dr. Fountain said it is a pleasure to be back with the Senate. He said, in August, the Student Athlete Convocation was held featuring motivational speaker Melissa Ruiz. They also held their

first Student Athlete Advisory Committee meeting. In addition, they continued their hosting of the Bulldog Experiential Leadership Institute which allows current student athletes the ability to complete experiential learning opportunities in areas throughout the Athletic Department.

Dr. Fountain said there were two new programs launched this fall. Beyond the Game, for male athletes, and Worldwide Dawgs, for our international athletes. All the teams participated in a sexual assault workshop and NCAA Diversity Inclusion Week this fall as well. Career preparation continues to be a priority for student athlete development and through Bulldog Suits Up, in collaboration with the Career Center, student athletes participate in weekly programs to help with things such as resume writing, cover letters, LinkedIn pages, job searches, and other career related activities.

Dr. Fountain said there are two student organizations which student athletes participate in led by two outstanding leaders he would like to recognize. The Student Athlete Advisory Committee is led by Trent Zelden, a thrower for Track & Field. The membership of this committee includes two representatives from each of the teams who serve as the voice and the link between their team and administration. The M Club is led by Julia Lasley, a jumper on the Track & Field team. This committee is open to all student athletes and is a service club providing community service through programs such as the local school reading program. Trent and Julia also serve as members of the President's Athletic Council.

Dr. Fountain said two of our student athletes will participate in the SEC Career Tour which is an interconference tour that exposes the participants to the highest levels of professional sports administration and business in major cities across the southeast. Additionally, three of our students have been nominated to help with the SEC Football Championship in Atlanta next month.

Dr. Fountain said the Hall Academic Awards were implemented as a result of the Supreme Court's decision on Austin vs. NCAA. These awards are above and beyond scholarship or cost of attendance. The maximum allowable amount is \$5,980 toward educational expenses. There are certain metrics the student athletes can complete or achieve to qualify for the award. In spring of 2022, the Athletic Department awarded \$1.2 million to 363 student athletes for their efforts the previous fall. This fall \$904,000 has been awarded to 377 student athletes for their spring activities. In addition to this, every incoming student athlete receives a new iPad to help with their academic and athletic responsibilities. Upon graduation, the students receive the full \$5,980 award. The Hall Award is available to any student athlete regardless of scholarship status.

Dr. Fountain said Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) is continually evolving. NIL was first allowed in July 2021 with the Mississippi law change. Since that time, approximately 600 NIL deals have

been disclosed with nearly 70% of the deals being social media endorsements. Approximately 300 student athletes have disclosed at least 1 NIL deal consisting of 65% of male and 35% of female student athletes. In 2021-2022, 28% of our student athletes had some type of NIL deal. This is above the national average. For 2022-2023 nearly 40% of our student athletes have NIL deals.

Dr. Fountain said we continue to see changes in the transfer rules and are awaiting recommendations from the NCAA Division IA Transformation Committee regarding the future of Division 1A athletics. Their work is to be completed by December. The NCAA Convention will be held in San Antonio in January.

Dr. Fountain said this is our tenth consecutive semester with an athletic department GPA of 3.0 or higher. There were 40 students with a 4.0 GPA in the spring of 2022 and 234 students who made the Bulldog Honor Roll. We also had three student athletes who were recognized as Stephen D. Lee Scholars: Peyton York, Luke Zacharias, and Ford Klegg. During the 2021-2022 academic year we had 140 graduating student athletes.

Dr. Fountain said this fall he had the privilege to collaborate with the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council to provide several athletic appreciation events. Football hosted an open practice and discounted seats to the game against Bowling Green. Volleyball hosted faculty and staff for their match against the University of Mississippi and Soccer hosted faculty and staff for their game against the University of Alabama. Dr. Fountain said the Athletic Department and the student athletes really appreciate those employees who were able to attend. On November 28<sup>th</sup>, during the men's basketball game against Omaha, and on December 11<sup>th</sup>, during the women's basketball game against Texas A&M Commerce, faculty and staff will be recognized.

Dr. Fountain said Austin Williams of football was named the SEC Boyd McWhorter Men's Scholar-Athlete of the Year in the spring. This is the highest award the SEC bestows on student athletes. Last month we were notified that Austin was named to the National Football Foundation's 2022 National Scholar-Athlete Class. This class includes 15 outstanding young men from all levels of intercollegiate football. Austin joins just 7 other Division 1A student athletes and only 1 other SEC student athlete. As a member of this class, he will receive an \$18,000 post-graduate scholarship. Austin and his family will be in Las Vegas next month for the awards presentation as a finalist for the 2022 William B. Campbell Trophy which is awarded to college football's premier scholar-athlete.

Dr. Fountain introduced Reese Dunn to the senators. He said Reese is a Starkville native and is a runner for MSU Track & Field. Reese has been selected as MSU's newest Rhodes Scholarship finalist. During his time at MSU, Reese has been named an Astronaut Scholar, a Goldwater Scholar, a Presidential Scholar, and Mr. MSU. The Rhodes Scholarship is the oldest and most



lauded graduate scholarship. Reese is MSU's 6<sup>th</sup> finalist in 11 years and the first who is a student athlete. The selection process will conclude next week, and Reese had the opportunity to participate in a virtual social event where he met the other scholars and committee members. Tomorrow morning Reese will have his final interview prior to the selection. Dr. Fountain said Reese is an outstanding ambassador of Mississippi State University and the Starkville Oktibbeha School District. The senators gave Reese a round of applause.

Dr. Fountain said he would like to commend the job that Bracky Brett has done since stepping into the role of Interim Athletic Director. He said there is nobody who is more respected in the SEC than Bracky Brett. Dr. Fountain said as Dr. Keenum works to identify our next Athletic Director, know that the Athletic Department is in excellent hands. He said there is tremendous leadership in the Athletic Department, and they are ensuring the health, safety, and success of our student athletes every day.

Senator Williams asked for Dr. Fountain to provide a breakdown of GPAs by sport. Dr. Fountain said he would provide this to the Faculty Senate Office for distribution to the senators. He said one other thing that he neglected to mention previously is that there will be a review of athletic academics. This is required in the Athletic Handbook policy. We have not had to do a review for the past few years due to the work we did with nfoura as part of our probation. We successfully completed our probation this past August and will reinstate the review process as a result.

## **REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT**

We are approaching final senate meeting of Fall 2022 and I am amazed at how fast this semester has gone by. We have some many things to be thankful for as faculty at Mississippi State University and I am encouraged everyday by the faculty that I get to interact with on this campus. I encourage all of you to look for the positives in where we are and the fact that we get to educate the future leaders of tomorrow and that we get to do research and projects to make for a better Mississippi, a better America, and a better world.

We have charged the Ad Hoc to review the Faculty Handbook to ensure it to be accurate, clear, and consistent throughout. Committee members are Dr. Paul Spurlin (Chair), Dr. Stacy Haynes, Dr. Julie Parker, Dr. Rebecca Robichaux-Davis, Dr. Brent Fountain, Dr. Jim Dunne, and Dr. Randy Follett. I have asked that they have a report drafted by March 1, 2023, so that we can report at the March 2023 Faculty Senate meeting.

I have been in discussions with former senator Ms. Lindsay Miller about a Newsletter or some form of a synopsis of each Faculty Senate meeting. So be on the lookout for that and if you have any input or desire to assist, please let me know.

I hope you all were able to participate or watch the P & T Panel discussion held in the Betterworth Auditorium on October 18, 2022. We had just under eighty participants on site and we had approximately thirty-five watching the live stream. Thanks to Senator Kevin Williams for proposing this and thanks to Dr. Jim Dunne, Dr. Jason Keith, Dr. Donna Peterson, Ms. Karen Brown, Dr. Dan Gadke, and Dr. Melanie Loehwing.

As I have said several times before, please know that the Senate is always open and wants to hear from and work with faculty. This is your office so please reach out with any questions and/or comments that we all can address to make MSU a better place.

### **Reports from Committees on which I serve:**

Athletic Council (October 19, 2022) – The October meeting was canceled on the day of the meeting due to the passing of a student athlete. No report to give. Our next Athletic Council meeting is set for November 16, 2022.

We will have the Faculty Athletic Appreciation events for Women’s Basketball and Men’s Basketball before the end of the semester and we will share those flyers once we have them.

Executive Council (October 24, 2022) – There was a presentation given by Mr. Don Zant’s office on the Campus Master Plan. There are so many inspiring items and projects in this plan, and it is exciting to see where we are going. There were three Operating Policies discussed and voted on. I will list them below.

OP Review and Approval

OP 91.304 Free Speech and Assembly – There was language added to correct a stated address also language to prohibit restriction to traffic flow.

OP 32.02 University Affiliates and Granting of Affiliate Status – New OP to define affiliates and characteristics of the status.

OP 80.07 Lobbying Activity- Correcting titles.

Executive Enrollment Management Committee (October 18, 2022) – This meeting was canceled for October 2022 and the next meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2022.

Faculty/Staff Housing Appeals Committee (October 21, 2022) – We had one appeal come before the committee this past month. It was handled via email and approved a 6-month lease extension because the timing of her departure does not interfere with anyone on the waiting list, and we would be pressed to have the unit turned over for a new faculty member.

Inclusive Excellence Leadership Council – Has not met since the beginning of the semester. Vice President Forbes says she plans to reconvene the committee sometime in late September once a chair has been identified. The previous chair left MSU.

IT Council (October 4, 2022, and November 1, 2022) – We did not meet in October or November, but our next scheduled meeting is December 6, 2022, at 1:30pm. This will be our last IT Council meeting of 2022.

Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee – There was no in-person meeting in October. The committee had an opportunity to review the Campus Master Plan.

Parking and Traffic Regulation Committee – We have not met in-person or over email since the last faculty senate meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for November 24, 2022, which I do believe will get changed because that is Thanksgiving Day.

President’s Committee on Planning – Has not met.

Special Events and Game Day Operations Committee (November 8, 2022) – A request was made to move up the opening of The Junction from 4:00pm to 2:00pm because the MSU Lady’s Soccer team is hosting the first round of the NCAA Tournament vs. New Mexico State on Friday November 11, 2022.

Sustainability Committee – This committee has not met since our last faculty senate meeting. The next scheduled meeting December 7, 2022.

Design Review Committee (July 2, 2022) – Has not met since last Faculty Senate Meeting.

## **REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE VICE PRESIDENT**

### **Academic Deans Council**

The October meeting of Academic Deans Council was cancelled. Next scheduled meeting is November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **Committee on Campus Access**

The November meeting was an email discussion on ideas from the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting last month. The committee is currently voting on these two proposals:

**Carpenter Elevator Modernization:** Request \$20000 in planning funds for modernization.

**Justification:** Carpenter has a single 4-stop hydraulic elevator which is one of the oldest on campus. The elevator has been on the Facilities Management priority list for renovation, and recent complaints with the control panel and operation of the unit have elevated the need to begin planning for replacement. With this elevator being the only means of fully accessible vertical circulation in the building, it is critical to begin planning

the modernization now so that the project is prioritized for construction as soon as full funding can be identified.

**Rice Hall Elevator Modernization:** Request \$50000 in planning funds for modernization.

**Justification:** Rice has a two bank, traction elevator that is well past its lifecycle (original to the building) and requires constant maintenance. The elevator has been at the top of the Facilities Management priority list for renovation, but due to inactivity at Rice the project has been deferred. With the Administration's recent decision to put Rice back into use for multiple departments, the elevator is now a priority again. Rice is one of the tallest buildings on campus and with the elevator being the only means of fully accessible vertical circulation in the building, it is critical to begin planning the modernization now so that the project is prioritized for construction as soon as full funding can be identified.

### **Community Engagement Committee**

No meeting is currently scheduled for this committee.

### **Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee**

Due to lack of agenda items, MPDAC was cancelled for the month of November.

### **Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery Committee**

No meetings are currently scheduled for this committee.

## **FACULTY DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

### **BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEE**

- 1. AOP 13.11 Academic Freedom (Faculty Affairs)**
- 2. Letter of Request: Study to Strengthen Shared Governance (Charter & Bylaws)**

Senator Freeman explained the procedural process for business being sent to committee as well as the procedure for handling a motion from committee.

President Barrett said AOP 13.11 was passed by Faculty Senate at the October meeting. It was found that the committee did not have the latest version of the proposed policy when they provided their report. President Barrett said he would like to send the complete policy back to the Faculty Affairs Committee so they can consider the additional language. The motion to send AOP 13.11 to the Faculty Affairs Committee passed by unanimous voice vote.

President Barrett asked for any discussion on sending the letter of request asking for a study to strengthen shared governance to the Charter & Bylaws Committee. The motion to send the letter of the request to the Charter & Bylaws Committee passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Academic Affairs**                      **No Report**

### **Ancillary Affairs**

#### **1. AOP 10.15 Substantive Changes**

Senator Stokes, on behalf of the Ancillary Affairs Committee, presented the committee report on AOP 10.15.

The motion to accept AOP 10.15 Substantive Changes as presented passed by unanimous hand vote.

### **Charter & Bylaws**

#### **1. Update on Inclusion of IHL Policy Changes in Faculty Handbook**

Senator Spurlin reported that the ad hoc committee consisting of the members of the Charter & Bylaws Committee and the Faculty Affairs Committee has been waiting on the Office of the Provost to submit some revisions to the language provided by University Counsel. He said once the revised language is received, the ad hoc committee will meet to discuss the updates to Section V of the Faculty Handbook.

**Faculty Affairs**                      **No Report**

**Student Affairs**                      **No Report**

**University Resources**              **No Report**

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **1. Ad Hoc Committee on Grade Distribution Site**

Vice President Banik, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee, presented the committee report on the grade distribution site.

Senator Williams asked if the committee discussed additional incentives to complete the course surveys, such as linking access to the grade distribution site to a specified completion rate of course surveys. He said he has heard of other universities allowing early access to grade posting based on completion of course surveys. Vice President Banik replied there was

discussion of additional incentives. He said doing something like this is not possible due to technical limitations. Other ideas were discussed amongst the committee but given the anonymity of the student surveys there was nothing identified that would be feasible.

The motion of the Ad Hoc Committee to accept the report as presented passed by unanimous hand vote.

## **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Senator Marshall said the library is currently working on a strategic plan and is hosting various focus groups to gather input. One of these sessions is specifically for Faculty Senate. He asked for senators who are interested in participating to contact him.

Senator Freeman said he has been working with the Office of Research and Economic Development and several research centers on interdisciplinary projects and commercializing research. He said feedback on the potential projects is being sought from faculty and surveys will be released. He asked that the senators take the time to complete the surveys. He said if anyone has any additional feedback, they can send it to him, and he will pass it along.

Senator Gregory made a motion to adjourn. Senator Freeman seconded the motion.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

Submitted for correction and approval.

---

Beth Stokes, Secretary

Jason Cory, Administrative Assistant II