

ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE UNCORRECTED MINUTES OF MEETING ON DECEMBER 7, 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, December 7, 2001.

Members absent and excused were Susan Bridges, James Bryant, Sylvia Byrd, Thomas Cathcart, Pasquale Cinnella, Walter Diehl, Mike Goatley, Mark Goodman, Homes Hogue, David H. Huddleston, Don Jackson, Douglas Marshall, Rachel McCann, PC McLaurin, Kent Payne, James Thomas and Peter Wood.

There were no members absent and unexcused.

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.

Chair Dan Embree called the meeting to order.

Chair Embree referred to the minutes of the November 9, 2001, Regular Meeting as distributed. Senators made corrections from the floor. Senator Light moved, Senator Rogers seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the minutes of November 9, 2001, as corrected. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

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

- <. Senatros Stanley Godbold has resigned from the Senate and the University.
- <. Chair Embree has had two meetings with Charles Lee and is very encouraged about their future working relationship.
- <. Chair Embree mentioned the possibility amending the bylaws to eliminate the Senate's December meeting due to final exams and graduation causing low attendance.
- <. Chair Embree suggested the possibility of sending the Senate's monthly agenda packet via e-mail instead of campus mail and asked for the Senator's opinions. Opinions were mixed and it was determined that for the February meeting, the Senate would try receiving the agenda packet via e-mail on an optional basis.
- <. The Governor has requested a meeting with all of the Senate Chairs to discuss

the state budget. Senator Diehl is currently attending this meeting in lieu of Chair Embree.

- <. Chair Embree mentioned that considerations were being made to devote the Spring Roundtable to the subjects of computer classrooms and distance learning. Due to the recent change in university administration, Chair Embree would like for the Senate to consider changing the subject to the governance issue and document and the possibility of re-writing and improving the document for presentation to the new administration. Vice-Chair Diehl will be in charge of the Spring Roundtable and Senators should let him know their opinions for keeping or changing the subject.

REPORT OF THE VICE CHAIR

Chair Embree referred to the Robert Holland Faculty Senate Vice Chair=s Report as distributed.

REPORT FROM FACULTY SENATE DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

University Research Council Senator Cinnella could not be at this meeting but asked Chair Embree to call attention to attachment number seven on overload compensation for faculty and staff. Chair Embree has requested a letter from Vice President for Research, Robert Altenkirch, asking the Senate to consider this topic as a piece of business.

University Benefits Committee Senator Nebeker reported that the committee has sent forth a recommendation that the university have Spring Break off again this year. He also reported that university employees now have the benefit of purchasing a Nissan vehicle or Flexible Flyer exercise equipment at a substantial discount.

University Traffic Committee Senator Lorenzo Crowell reported the committee has determined that there is no parking problem. The true issue is that of inconvenience. Various recommendations were made including the possibility of parking garage. The shuttle system was reviewed and vehicle registration for parking was considered. The committee recommended that the cost of a parking sticker for off campus students be expensive to encourage them to ride the shuttle buses; that the cost of a parking sticker for resident housing students be a part of their housing expenses; and that faculty and staff be issued a parking permit free of charge when issued a university ID card.

BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEES

Letter from Dr. Lorenzo M. Crowell, re: Final Exam Schedule -- Senator Williams moved, Senator Gootee seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate. Chair Embree assigned this issue to the

Ancillary Affairs Committee.

Resolution from Dr. Lorenzo M. Crowell re: Budget Crisis -- Senator Myers moved, Senator Lestrade seconded, to suspend the rules to allow the Senate to consider this resolution at this meeting. The motion passed 27-2-0.

Senator Crowell moved, Senator Salin seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate adopt the resolution as presented by Senator Crowell.

Senator Myers offered a friendly amendment to change the wording to:

Resolved that the Mississippi State University Holland Faculty Senate s judgment is that multimillion dollar reductions in the operating budget of MSU in the next fiscal year coming on top of recent such cuts, as well as the loss of faculty during the present hiring freeze, will substantially reduce the ability of the faculty to accomplish its teaching, service, and research missions at the level is had done so in the past unless reductions in student enrollments and course offerings are commensurate with the reduced staffing and budget cuts.

The friendly amendment was accepted.

Senator Dooley offered a friendly amendment to stop after the word past so that it would read:

Resolved that the Mississippi State University Holland Faculty Senate s judgment is that multimillion dollar reductions in the operating budget of MSU in the next fiscal year coming on top of recent such cuts, as well as the loss of faculty during the present hiring freeze, will substantially reduce the ability of the faculty to accomplish its teaching, service, and research missions at the level is had done so in the past.

The friendly amendment was accepted.

The original motion as amended failed on a Senate vote of 7-22-1.

Letter from Dr. Robert Altenkirch, re: Overload compensation for faculty and staff

Senator Rogers moved, Senator Hood seconded, to suspend the rules to allow the Senate to consider sending this letter to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate. Chair Embree assigned this issue to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Cornelious moved, Senator Rogers 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 Cornelious, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to a letter received from Dr. Lorenzo Crowell regarding a Memorandum to Deans-Assessing Faculty workloads. The Committee finds no action by the Senate is required.

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

Senator Cornelious, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to a letter received from Dr. Lorenzo Crowell regarding the Meridian Campus and their desire to expand offerings to include a bachelor of arts in history. Senator Cornelious moved, Senator Myers seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate endorse the recommendation that:

The affected home departments have input and ultimate control of course offerings and staffing at other campuses e.g., Meridian, Vicksburg. Should the department desire to expand its offerings to new student populations, there be support provided from ITS, Continuing Education, and other service units that would help the department decide how best to deliver those offerings.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 31-0-0.

ANCILLARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report.

CHARTER AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE

No report.

FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Williams moved, Senator Light 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 Williams, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to a letter received from Dr. Lorenzo Crowell regarding the Phi Beta Kappa searches, a letter from Thomas G. Carskadon and email correspondence between Robert C. Smith and the American Mathematical Society. Senator Williams moved, Senator Smyer seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the following recommendations for submission to the new interim administration and to the appropriate remaining members of the current administration:

1. That in planning the future course of the university, administration and faculty make obtaining a Phi Beta Kappa chapter a high priority goal;
2. That the administration provide sustained support at effective levels to Phi Beta Kappa members seeking an MSU chapter; this support should include release time as well as funds for necessary travel, clerical help and research aides.
3. That the MSU Foundation's future fund-raising efforts place major emphasis on finding resources that will improve MSU's chances to obtain a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, and
4. That all administrators, in fact and in spirit, abide by the Principles for University Governance in all further matters affecting MSU's application for Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 21-5-0.

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Senator Hodge moved, Senator Crowell seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the first report from the Student Affairs Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Hodge, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to a letter received from Dr. Lou D Abramo requesting the Senate to review the mission statement of the Department of Athletic Academics. The Committee finds no action by the Senate is required.

Senator Hodge moved, Senator Crowell seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the second report from the Student Affairs Committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

Senator Hodge, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to AOP 12.08 Certificate of Recognition. The Student Affairs Committee concurs with the revisions to AOP 12.08 suggested by the Office of Academic Affairs and has no additional recommendations for this AOP. Senator Hodge moved, Senator Smyer seconded, that the Office of Academic Affairs revisions to AOP 12.08 Certificate of Recognition be accepted by the Robert Holland Faculty Senate.

The motion passed on a Senate vote of 29-0-0.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Senator Crowell moved, Senator Bullington 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 Crowell, member of the University Resources Committee, referred to this Committee's report pertaining to the Research/Scholarship Fund. No action was required by the Senate.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Submitted for correction and approval.

LaDonne Delgado, Secretary