

## **ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE January 11, 2008**

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular meeting in the Coskrey Auditorium of Memorial Hall at 2:08 p.m. on Friday, January 11, 2008.

Members absent and excused were Mike Brown, Al Myles, Peter Ryan, David Bridges, Dave Dampier, Pat Donohoe, Denny Eshee, Jerry Mathews, Joe Massey, Dan Reynolds, Julie Sexton, Ray Vaughn, Jeremy Johnson.

Members absent and unexcused were Shu Wu.

The meeting was broadcast real-time over the World Wide Web. Due to technical difficulty the file is not available at the Senate homepage at <http://www.facultysenate.msstate.edu>.

President Robert Wolverton called the meeting to order.

President Wolverton referred to the minutes of the November 9, 2007, Regular Meeting as distributed. Senator D'Abramo moved, Senator Deeds seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the minutes. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

### **GUESTS**

President Wolverton introduced guests: Dr. Peter Rabideau, Provost; Dr. Bill Kibler, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Beatrice Tatem, Director of Student Counseling Services; and Ann Bell and Judy Spenser, Director and Associate Director of Human Resources.. Shortly after the meeting began, President Foglesong joined the Senate and introduced Senator Roger Wicker.

### **ROBERT FOGLESONG, PRESIDENT**

- President Foglesong introduced newly appointed Senator Roger Wicker. Senator Wicker stated that the federal and state government roles coincide with efforts to bring jobs and research into the state. He cited staff members who are MSU alumni and encouraged faculty and staff to continue efforts to bring economic opportunities to the state.

### **PETER RABIDEAU, PROVOST**

Provost Rabideau provided the following information:

- IHL has begun a system planning process and has requested that each university establish a planning team of 25 to 30 individuals to meet with the steering committee. The goal is to review systematic strategies and planning framework, and to evaluate progress toward IHL goal of increasing the number and quality of baccalaureate degrees in Mississippi.

- The team will include members of the senior administration, key faculty leaders, and university personnel to provide advice and recommendations for student recruitment, retention, and remediation. The team membership will be announced in the near future.
- With regard to Dean searches:
  - The Engineering search committee is putting together a finalized list.
  - The Arts and Sciences search is progressing and Rabideau expects a list next week.
  - The Graduate Studies and Associate Provost search has a new procedure and an announcement is posted on the MSU Human Resources website.
- Discussion/questions posed to Rabideau:
  - Discussion involved the election of search committee members, Rabideau stated that election of members is likely to impact important issues such as the diversity of the committee. He stated that he must attend to such issues and that appointment facilitates that process. Concern was expressed to Rabideau about transparency in the process.
  - In a discussion of the Graduate School Dean search, Rabideau stated that four internal candidates were interviewed and the individual who was offered the position declined. He indicated that a national search has been opened.
  - In response to questions as to whether students would be included on the University planning team that will meet with IHL, he indicated not at this time.

**BILL KIBLER, VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS; BILL BROYSALS, OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS; MIKE WHITE, DEAN OF STUDENTS; AND BEATRICE TATEM, DIRECTOR OF STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES**

Dr. Kibler stated the group was present to respond to questions posed about the Student Counseling Center at the November Senate meeting. He introduced Dr. Tatem, who provided information about the Center via a slide presentation.

- Dr. Tatem presented information about (a) current staffing issues and procedures to address those issues; (b) recent changes in the name in which the testing component was removed; (c) the role and function of the Center, hours of operation, and various referral locations for individuals who need additional services beyond those available at the Center and a triage strategy that is implemented during peak times (e.g., during finals week); (d) the Center's accreditation information; and (e) current service information (about 9% of the student population is served) and outreach efforts aimed at prevention of issues.
  - A question posed to Dr. Tatem involved the need for more fulltime counselors. Tatem agreed and indicated that the current number of counselors is about four. Dr. Kibler indicated that with regard to staffing, the cuts in funds has taken a toll. He stated there will be no new funding. He clarified issues related to student testing and assessment, and the link between the Center and the Student Health Center.
  - In response to a question about adequate physical resources, the response was that was an issue and it is a priority.

- In a question about whether faculty will be alerted when a student becomes a concern, Kibler explained the need for privacy. He outlined the activities of a watch team that monitors the situation when concern is expressed about an individual.

## **ANN BELL AND JUDY SPENCER, DIRECTOR AND ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES**

President Wolverton indicated that Ms. Bell and Ms. Spencer were present to answer questions related to the Report of the Executive Committee to the Senate regarding HRM 60.118 – Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Policy.

Senator Byrd moved, Senator Deeds seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the recommendations presented in the report presented by the Executive Committee.

Discussion included that original key issues had not been resolved (e.g., the definition of “probable cause”, who determines this probable cause, and the definition of “sensitive information”). It was determined that the final decision of revisions rest with Dr. Foglesong as the University President. Following a charge that the Executive Committee was not responding to concerns voiced about issues such as the policy, the events related to the issue across the past semester were reviewed: (a) the Senate had requested that the policy be reviewed by both the Faculty Senate and Staff Council, and (b) little had come from those appointed by President Wolverton to examine the issue and Staff Council had not responded. President Foglesong has now placed an end of January deadline for feedback about the policy.

Senator D’Abramo moved to amend the recommendations: (a) to include Staff Council representatives on the implementation committee (see #2 of the recommendations), and (b) the addition of the phrase “including remediation and sanctions included in the policy” to #4 of the recommendations. The amendment was approved on a unanimous voice vote.

The original motion to approved the recommendation of the Executive Committee passed on a vote of 33 – 0 – 1.

Senator Deeds moved, seconded by Senator Porter, that an extension be requested for the deadline. The motion passed on an unanimous voice vote.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Wolverton gave the following report:

- Governor Barber has requested all state agencies to provide a report of the probable impact of budget decreases of 2% and 5% for next year.
- An update on the Old Miss request for special consideration for past budgets was provided. President Wolverton referred to his proposed Resolution to President

Foglesong regarding the level of support and funding. The Resolution passed on a voice vote.

- Item 3 of the President's Report (page 1 - 2 of the agenda), the role of the Senate, was discussed. It was posed that the Charter and Bylaws Committee should examine the Governance Document as a "living document". Senator Byrd moved, Senator Bailey seconded, that the document be examined relative to the Faculty Handbook. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

### **REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT**

Vice President David Nagel gave the following report:

- The Dean's Council was been cancelled for the past two months. No report on the activities of the Council was given.
- The Traffic Committee has met.
  - An update was provided on the strategies to address student parking violations. It appears that a small group is responsible for many of the violations. Nagle reported that following discussion, the Parking Committee had voted to keep the current policies.
  - A new parking lot has been built at the Vet School and a new lot is in progress across from the new Music building.

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

No reports were provided from the Senate Designates to the University Committees.

### **BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEES**

None.

### **BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEES**

**Letter from J. Gilbert regarding AOP 30.05 Internet Domain Names and Services** – Senator Adebisi moved, Senator Ryan seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Wolverton assigned this issue to University Resources.

**Letter from J. Gilbert regarding AOP on Annual Reviews of Faculty** – Senator Adebisi moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Wolverton assigned this issue to Faculty Affairs.

**Letter from M. Goodman regarding Faculty Senate Confidence Survey** – President Wolverton formed a committee to address this issue. Senators D'Abramo will chair, and Senator Goodman volunteered to serve. Wolverton asked that others who wish to serve should contact him. The mechanism to protect the confidentiality of respondents was

discussed. Senator D'Abramo asked for input to facilitate voting. It was clarified that in the past, approximately 50% of the faculty had voted on the survey.

**Letter from M. Goodman regarding Perry Cafeteria and Food Services Issues –** Senator Adebisi moved, Senator Raymond seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Wolverton assigned this issue to University Resources.

**Letter from M. Goodman regarding the Drug and Alcohol Policy –** This issue was withdrawn by Senator Goodman, based on the Senate's previous business to address this issue.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Senator Tim Chamblee, member of the Academic Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report on the AOP 12.08 – Academic Minors and Certification Programs, and moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate accept the committee's recommendations.

The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

### **ANCILLARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

No report.

### **CHARTER AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report.

### **FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Senator Michael Brashier, Chair of the Faculty Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee's report on AOP 13.13 – Leave Policies. Brashier noted that stricken items about how leave accrued were removed, as these are outlined by state law. He stated that additions address the tenure clock, add the phrase "family or medical leave" provides examples of modified workload (the bulleted list was not prioritized).

Senator Deeds moved, Senator Adebisi seconded, that the report be sent to the University ad hoc committee and the Provost prior to accepting the recommendations. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

### **STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

No report.

## **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES**

No report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Senator D'Abramo moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by President Wolverton at 5:10 pm.

Submitted for correction and approval.

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Carlen Henington, Secretary