The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular monthly meeting in the Coskrey Auditorium at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 9, 2009.

Members absent and excused were: Becky Toghiani

Members unexcused:

The meeting was called to order by the Senate President, Hart Bailey.

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from September 11 be accepted.

The minutes of the September 11, 2009, meeting was approved.

GUESTS

Dr. Mark Keenum, President
Sent his regrets but he was unable to attend.

Dr. Peter Rabideau, Provost

Dr. Rabideau addressed the senate on academic and financial issues. He discussed some of the “ideas” that are being discussed for upcoming budget cuts. He expressed his hope that the budget shortfall projects may be overstated, since he has undergone similar budget worries in the past.

Dr. Rabideau discussed the fall retreat of the IHL and presidents of the universities. He reiterated the president’s point that we must highlight all the missions of MSU. IHL is currently planning cuts based on student credit hours. MSU’s mission reaches beyond teaching to research and service. Dr. Rabideau encouraged all colleges to think strategically. He outlined plans at the University of Southern Mississippi to collapse some programs in the College of Business as a model that may work at MSU.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Faculty Senate Colleagues:

Dr. Keenum charged the Faculty Senate to conduct an election for faculty representation to his Select Committee on Efficiencies and Innovations (SCEI). One representative is to be chosen from each of the eight colleges, the Library and Meridian. The nomination process has begun and the election will be concluded by the later part of October. Based upon Dr. Keenum’s comments at the September Senate meeting concerning the budgetary issues, MSU will be facing some significant challenges ahead. I strongly encourage all Senators to facilitate the discussion at your departmental level and lead the effort to provide information to the SCEI once it begins its work.

I want to thank Dr. Millea for her efforts concerning the SCEI election on behalf of the Faculty. The Senate’s also owes a debt of gratitude to the numerous personnel in the Information Technology Services (ITS) that committed a significant amount of time and resources in working to set up the election site. The result of their efforts will be a secure, dependable, user friendly, web based system that will provide versatility in meeting the current and future of needs of the
Faculty Senate. These same ITS’ people will also help us operate and maintain this site. Please offer feedback on the site and related issues as you become aware of them.

There is still a need for volunteers to serve on a sub-committee to work with ITS to oversee the Senate Webpage and related issues, such as the election. If you have expertise that can be utilized or interest in this project please email me.

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee reviewed the applications for the Administrative Assistant position. Interviews will be scheduled shortly and we look forward to having someone serving in that capacity soon.

Over the last month, I represented the Faculty Senate on the Presidential Investiture Committee, Athletic Council, National Alumni Board of Directors and Executive Council. I appreciate all of the Faculty members that have committed to participate in the Presidential Investiture. The Student Honor Code document was brought to the MSU Executive Council for action. I asked that it be brought back for Senate Review, and Dr. Keenum agreed.

Mr. Bob Luke of LPK Architects of Meridian will be speaking at the Faculty Senate meeting on October 9th. Mr. Luke is the Architect that is responsible for developing the long range plan for the Mississippi State University campus, and he presented his plan at the Alumni Association’s National Board of Directors meeting. I believe it will be of interest to the Senate and give him an opportunity to address any questions that you may have.

Dr. Steve Turner, Chairman, Campus Athletic Council, and I completed and submitted the Athletic Integration Into Academics Survey in September. The annual survey is an effort conducted by the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics which is an alliance of 56 NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision university senates. Dr. Turner will be addressing the Senate in the November meeting on issues related to the Student Athletic Council and student athletic oversight at MSU.

Respectfully submitted October 8, 2009
R. H. “Hart” Bailey
President
Faculty Senate

VICE CHAIR REPORT

As a function of my Faculty Senate Vice-Presidential duties, I attended the Academic Dean’s Council meeting October 5th.

AOP 12.11 Degree Requirements- Undergraduates was passed.

AOP 13.13 Extended Leave Guidelines for Tenure and Workload Modification was distributed for consideration at the next meeting (November 9th)

Affirmative Action placement goals and 2010 Affirmative Action Plan were reviewed. For more information go to http://www.msstate.edu/president/odep/ under the Affirmative Action Program link.

United Way contributions and participation were reported
The need for a Pandemic Plan was discussed. There have not been many impacted instructors.

Butch Stokes discussed the Commencement set for December 11th at 7:00 p.m. and the Investiture.

The search process for the VP for Research and Economic Development has identified 4 candidates who will be interviewing through the month of November.

The major topic of discussion was the additional 3.5% budget cuts. Dr. Rabideau reported the president’s priorities were for 1) student and faculty support; 2) retention; and 3) scholarships. He also reported that he and Vice President McGrevey will be co-chairing the Select Committee on Efficiencies and Innovations. That committee will have an academic focus. General Counsel, Charles Guest and Dr. Rabideau concurred that the committee should consider establishing an appeals process for impacted faculty. The Council discussed measures of productivity at length, primarily focusing on cost per student credit hour.

I have also attended the Traffic Committee meeting. Bicycle and motorcycle parking and regulation enforcement were the primary topics of discussion.

I also worked closely with Hart Bailey and several members of ITS to enable the electronic nomination and election process for President Keenum’s Select Committee on Efficiencies and Innovations. The timeline for that process is as follows:

1 - A call for nominations October 2 - 6
2 - Electronic ballot October 9 – 13
3 – Runoff election, if necessary, October 15 - 19
4 – Announcement of committee representatives October 20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meghan Millea
October 5, 2009

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE**

Open Enrollment is currently underway.
BUSINESS TO BE SENT TO COMMITTEES

6.1 LETTER FROM BILL KIBLER: RE: HONOR CODE

6.2

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
7.1.1 Section 8.1.2 of the Tenure and Promotion Procedures-Elections

7.1.2 AOP 13.22 - Guidelines for Adjunct Faculty, Visiting Faculty, Visiting Scholar and Visiting Executive Appointments

ANCILLARY AFFAIRS
7.2.1 Review of recommended change to AOP 10.08
Charter and Bylaws
7.3.1 No Report

FACULTY AFFAIRS
7.4.1 No Report

STUDENT AFFAIRS
7.5.1 No Report

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES
7.6.1 No Report

OLD BUSINESS

8.1 NO OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

9.1 No New Business
The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.
Submitted for correction and approval.

______________________________
Dana Pomykal Franz, Secretary