



## **ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE**

### **Uncorrected Minutes of October 13, 2017**

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular monthly meeting in the Grisham Room of Mitchell Memorial Library at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, October 13, 2017.

Members absent and excused were: Jimmy Avery, Guihong Bi, Cecelia Cook, Marina Denny, Darrin Dodds, Seamus Freyne, Patty Lathan, Lyndsey Miller, Raja Reddy, Chinling Wang, and Byron Williams.

The meeting was called to order by Senate President, Brent Fountain.

President Fountain said that two corrections to the minutes had already been received. On page 10 of the agenda, Senator Avery was incorrectly identified in the third paragraph. This should have been Senator Martin. In several places in the minutes, “University” was spelled incorrectly. President Fountain asked for any additional changes to the September 8, 2017 minutes. Vice President Follett made a motion that the minutes be accepted as amended. Senator Coyne seconded the motion. The minutes of the September 8, 2017 meeting were accepted as amended.

President Fountain announced that Stephanie Durr was present to represent the Student Association and Holly Holladay was in attendance representing the Graduate Student Association.

### **GUESTS**

#### **Mr. Steve Parrott, Interim Chief Information Officer**

Mr. Parrott said that he would be discussing two-factor authentication. The Security Information Program requires two-factor authentication for all individuals with access to category one data. Category one data includes any information regulated by HIPPA, FERPA, or sensitive financial

data. Mr. Parrot said that the first factor is the users net ID and password. The second factor is a device, such as a cell phone or tablet. The service that MSU is using for two-factor authentication is DUO. Two-factor authentication was rolled out on July 24<sup>th</sup> of this year. On the same date a new central authentication system (CAS) was also activated. Once a user is signed up for two-factor authentication, they will be required to two-factor in to any CAS enabled system. Enrollment in two-factor authentication has been voluntary up to this point. Currently, 1,427 people are enrolled. There are 3,437 users that have access to category one data. As of October 16<sup>th</sup>, any user that has access to category one data and is not enrolled in two-factor authentication will receive a warning screen every time they attempt to log into a CAS enabled system. Faculty's access to FERPA information makes them category one data users. All users are encouraged to use two-factor authentication. There have been cases where user's accounts have been hacked and their direct deposit information has been changed. Some units on campus are requiring all of their employees to register for two-factor authentication.

Mr. Parrott said that multiple devices can be registered through DUO. If an individual does not have a mobile device, hardware tokens are available at the ITS Help Desk. When logging into a two-factor enabled system, the user will input their user ID and password and a prompt will be sent to the registered devices requiring approval or denial of access to the system. There is a check box that allows for the user to not have to two-factor in again for 24 hours as long as the access is from the same computer and browser. If the user does not have their mobile device with them they can still access the systems using a passcode. There are three ways to generate a passcode. The first way to generate a passcode is to navigate to [2fa.msstate.edu](https://2fa.msstate.edu) and click the link to generate a passcode. After answering several personal questions that are set up when registering, a passcode will be issued which is valid for 24 hours. The second way to generate a passcode is to use a hardware token, which is supplied by ITS. The third way a passcode can be generated is through the DUO app. Mr. Parrott said that he recommends registering for DUO during help desk hours. He said that once an individual registers they will be required to two-factor to access the protected systems.

Senator Carskadon asked where individuals can go to register for two-factor authentication. Mr. Parrott replied that to register, a user can go to either [2fa.msstate.edu](https://2fa.msstate.edu) or [duo.msstate.edu](https://duo.msstate.edu). There is also a link to the registration site under "Quick Links" on the ITS website.

Senator Herd asked if faculty members without smart phones would have to go to ITS on October 16<sup>th</sup> to access the systems. Mr. Parrott replied that users will not be required to two-factor in on October 16<sup>th</sup>. He said that there is an option to continue with one-factor authentication on the DUO warning screen.

Senator Wipf asked if this service was SMS based. Mr. Parrott replied that it is a push notification through the app. He said that there is no SMS option available. Senator Wipf asked if a Unikey could be used. Mr. Parrott replied that a Unikey could be used once it is configured by ITS in DUO.

President Fountain asked Mr. Parrot if he could explain how DUO works if the user is traveling internationally. Mr. Parrot said that if the user is located where the push notifications are unavailable, the app can be used to generate a passcode to allow access to the systems.

Senator Wilmoth asked when users will no longer be able to one-factor in to the systems. Mr. Parrott replied that no decision has been made regarding mandating two-factor authentication. He said that the warning screen will be used for a period of time. Enrollment will be monitored to determine the number of category one data users that have not registered for DUO and a decision will be made at a later date.

Senator Grace asked if the students would be able to use DUO. She said that she has several students that use laptops in her classes, but she does not allow cell phones. Mr. Parrott replied that students are able to enroll in two-factor authentication.

Ms. Holladay asked if it is recommended that students enroll in two-factor authentication. Mr. Parrott replied that he would recommend using two-factor authentication for the added layer of security.

#### **Dr. Steve Turner, Faculty Athletic Representative**

(Dr. Turner provided a handout, which is located at the end of these minutes)

Dr. Turner began by saying that in his role as Faculty Athletic Representative for MSU he acts as liaison between the President's Office, Athletic Department, and faculty. One of the main focuses of the position is to monitor academics within athletics. The two ways that this is accomplished is by communicating frequently with the Athletic Academic Center and through the Athletic Council.

Dr. Turner said that the grades for last spring were lower than they were the previous fall. Since becoming the Faculty Athletic Representative, Dr. Turner said that he has noticed that the grades in the spring semester are lower than those in the fall semester.

The Athletic Council meets once a month. Faculty representation on the council is greater than any other group. Athletic Council members are appointed by the President or elected. Dr. Turner explained that the Faculty Senate President and he review candidates over the summer. These candidates are then provided to President Keenum for consideration. The appointees serve three year terms which are subject to renewal. There are also representatives from student organizations, professional staff, alumni, and athletics. There is a lot of misinformation associated with athletic academics. Dr. Turner said that he tries to inform athletics, faculty, and administration of the facts. As an example, the NCAA recently did a study of the perception of college athletics. Of all of the groups surveyed, faculty perceptions were the lowest. Dr. Turner said that the Athletic Department needs to know that.

Senator Carskadon asked if the data that was provided was just for scholarship athletes. Dr. Turner replied that the provided data was just for scholarship athletes. He added that when the non-scholarship athletes are added to the scholarship athletes, the GPAs go up.

Senator Williams said that he believed faculty's perception of athletics is low due to the repeated findings of the NCAA, which seem to accommodate athletic programs. He cited the North Carolina investigation in which the official announcement of the findings was delayed to allow the University to hold a fundraising event. Dr. Turner replied that the NCAA is a self-governing body that follows due diligence in their evaluation of possible infractions. He further commented that in his opinion, being a faculty athletic representative in the Southeastern Conference is the closest that he will ever be to being in politics. Faculty's low approval of college athletics could be due to the fact that faculty deal with student athletes on a daily basis. He added that every year there is an award that is given to the SEC scholar-athletes of the year called the Boyd McWhorter award. The nominees for this award are the best of the best and have very impressive resumes. Senator Williams said that his comments were not directed toward the student-athletes, but were directed to the question of who is watching the watchmen. Dr. Turner replied that during a review of a possible infraction, the facts have to be weighed against the policies as they are written.

Senator Carskadon asked if there was a difference between the level of support that a scholarship athlete receives versus a non-scholarship athlete. Dr. Turner replied that the support services for student athletes is identical.

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

### **Robert Holland Faculty Senate President Committee Service**

Executive Council	Design Review Committee
Executive Enrollment Management Council	Information Technology Council
Special Events and Game Day Operations	Athletic Council
Diversity Council	Parking and Traffic Regulations Committee
Sustainability Committee	Fall Convocation Planning and Review
Textbook Adoption Committee	Employee Benefits Committee
Alumni Board	Health and Wellness Committee
President's Committee on Planning	Work-Life Balance Committee
Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee	

## Faculty Senate Designates on University Committees

- Current additions to list of Faculty Senate designates on University Committees
  - Deborah Eakin\* Academic Accommodations Council
  - Stephanie Lemley\* Commencement Committee
  - Kathy Sherman-Morris\* Committee on Courses and Curricula
  - Dipangkar Dutta\* Galleries and Museums Committee
  - Marina Denny\* Institutional Effectiveness Committee
  - Kathleen Alley\* Instructional Technology Advisory Committee
  - Lesley Strawderman\* Registration and Scheduling Committee
  - Molly Zuckerman\* Teaching Evaluation Committee
  - Stacy Haynes\* Work-Life Balance Committee
  - Sol Paleaz\* Library Committee
  - Darrin Dodds\* Graduate Council
  - Ed Potter\* Academic Review Board
  - Randy Follett Academic Deans Council\*\*  
Community Engagement Committee\*\*  
  
Textbook Committee\*\*  
  
Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery\*\*
  - Noel Addy Associate Deans Council\*\*  
Calendar Committee\*\*\*
  - Tom Carskadon Instructional Improvement Committee\*\*\*
  - Renee Clary Instructional Improvement Committee\*\*\*

\* new appointment

\*\*service based on position within Senate

\*\*\*reappointment

- Length of service is one-year with reappointment at the discretion of the incoming Faculty Senate President
- There are still a few available committee assignments under the Office of the Provost. I will also be working with the Vice-Presidents to discuss the addition of Faculty Senate designates to their committees.

## President's Reports from University Committees (September-October 2017)

## **Promotion and Tenure Workshops for Deans, Department Heads, and P&T Committee Chairs**

**Led by: The Office of the Provost-** Drs. Hodges, Pearson; Attended by: Ms. Lucas, Ms. Spencer, RHFS President/Vice President

**Dates:** September 11  
September 12  
September 14  
September 19

Purpose was in preparation for the upcoming Promotion and Tenure cycle.

More than 90 attendees to the training

The Office of the Provost is preparing an updated Frequently Asked Questions section to include questions received/discussed during the different sessions.

## **Athletic Council-September 13, 2017**

**Presentations:** Leah Beasley-External Affairs and Rhett Hobart-Marketing and Branding

Role of Marketing

- Consistency of brand across all sports, team and department as a whole.
- Fan Experiences
  - Maroon Memories Program (sideline pass/picture with Bully/photo on the field)
  - Hail State Rewards (Students) points for attendance and then reach levels (tied to football tickets 80%)
  - Kids-Families (Bully's Kid's Club)
- Mississippi State Athletics will transition from Learfield sports to IMG collegiate licensing Roll out will begin January 2018

**Presentations:** Christine Jackson, Athletic Academic Advising

Spring 2017-(Academic Progress Rate (APR) Benchmark is 930)

- 5 teams with perfect 1,000 APR-Men's golf, men's tennis, women's basketball, women's tennis, volleyball. All other teams were above 930 benchmark.
- Halbrook Award-Public universities with highest graduation rate for men's and women's athletic teams
- Richard Brown-Outstanding male-Football
- Dominique Dillingham-Outstanding female-W Basketball

## Dudy Noble Progress Update

- Sod laid on DNF third week of September- fall practice to begin in October 9
- Lounge construction began on Monday, September 11
- 2017-2018 seating-Lower bowl
  - 15 SEC home games
  - 8 non-conference games
  - GA tickets only
  - Adkerson Plaza-great showcase. Every county represented around *M over S* logo and will also include a Ring of honor.
- Left field lofts-2019 lofts
  - Start out with 12 units-year long option, baseball option, football option

## Student Ticket Comparison

- Mississippi State University student season ticket cost: \$70.00/10,500 availability
- University of Mississippi student season ticket cost: \$130.00/10,500 availability
- MSU charged \$70/student 10,500 tickets

2017-2018 MSU Athletics will transfer back 3 million to the University.

## Master Plan Development and Advisory Committee (MPDAC)-September 14, 2017

- **Design Review Committee**
  - Dudy Noble Left Field Lofts-Tabled
  - Catalpa Creek Confluence Site-Site Approval
  - Classroom Glass Walls-Under Review
- **Campus Project Updates**
  - YMCA Renovation-ongoing
  - Library Addition-nearly complete
  - Partnership School-preparing to begin
  - Russell Street Improvements-ongoing/nearing completion
  - Engineering and Science Building-preparing to begin
  - NSPARC
  - Music Building
  - Dudy Noble Renovation
  - Meat Lab-nearing completion
  - Animal and Dairy Science Building-preparing to begin

## Executive Council September 25, 2017

- OP 01.03 Salary Supplement Fund-Raising-John Rush
  - Executive Council approved on 9/25/2017
- OP 01.19 Misuse of University Assets-Lisa Ervin

- Executive Council approved on 9/25/2017
- OP 91.311 Electronic Safety and Security
  - Recommended as a new O.P. however after discussion by the Executive Council, it was recommended that the information in the proposed OP be added to existing not approved instead the new information be added to an existing related OP 91.315 Guidelines Concerning the Use of Surveillance Cameras on Campus.
- OP 91.315 was approved with the additional language on 9/25/2017

### **Academic Department Heads Executive Committee Meeting-September 26, 2017**

At the request of Alan Marcus, I was invited to attend a regular meeting of the Academic Department Heads Executive Committee Meeting. This committee is charged with advising the Provost and Executive Vice President on issues affecting academic department heads. One representative is elected by the department heads of each college for a three-year term. As with other campus entities (e.g. Student Association, Staff Council) there are always issues of shared importance and opportunities to collaborate and promote. It was mutually agreed that the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate and the Academic Department Heads Executive Committee seek a time in the near future where both groups could come together for an open dialogue to discuss issues of shared importance. We are currently planning a time and location for this meeting.

### **Post Fall Convocation 2017 Meeting-September 26, 2017**

As the third year for this event, the committee members commented that the Fall Convocation is becoming a favorite Mississippi State tradition. The committee was in agreement that Mr. Wes Moore was well-received by those in attendance and recognized that he did an outstanding job with his keynote address and the additional functions he attended during his time on campus. There was a brief discussion regarding a potential change to the platform party that may help with transitions to and from the podium for those speaking. There was a request that refreshments be provided in the President's Reception Room for the Keynote Speaker and platform party in preparation of the event. It was noted that there are refreshments available for faculty prior to the event and refreshments available post event. Attendance was slightly down according to scanner count and there was discussion about how to communicate availability of scanners to the students to avoid delays. The participation and attention of those in attendance was recognized, and the committee felt that the student ushers were very helpful in helping students remain for the entire program and not leaving the event early. The reception and book signing was a tremendous success based on those attending.

### **Parking and Traffic Committee-September 28, 2017**

- **Old Main Academic Center Service Parking**
  - Temporary striping of spaces by YMCA approved

- **Career Center Parking**
  - Issue: In the past, the Career Center has had access to the gated parking lot adjacent to Montgomery Hall to provide to those who may be on campus for recruitment of current students after graduation and other business. The Parking and Traffic Committee proposed that the Career Center bring forth a proposal that provides details regarding the number of parking spaces requested as well as requested days and times of use.
  
- **Community Service Appeal Process**
  - Based on a request from the Student Association, it was proposed that a change be made to P) 95.501 Traffic and Parking Rules Regulations, specifically section F. Procedures For Parking and Traffic Citation Appeals, Point 4 Citation Appeals.
    - Should the proposed change be approved, it would allow for the appropriate Faculty/Staff or Student Citation Committee to approve community service hours to be administered through the Maroon Volunteer Center. Out of Zone (\$30.00 fine) citations would be the only citations eligible for the community service and two hours of community service equals a full waiver of the citation fee.
    - Service opportunities would be approved by the Office of Parking and Transit Service, the Maroon Volunteer Center, and the Office of the Dean of Students.
    - All community service must be completed within two weeks.
    - The proposal includes that the Student Citation Committee has the authority to grant 1,000 hours of community service per fiscal year and only one community service appeal may be granted per academic year.
  
- **Hurst Hall Road one-way discussion**
  - It was recommended by the committee and approved to designate a lot number and make the Hurst Hall road one-way heading south and address street parking as needed.

**Information Technology Council-October 3, 2017: attended by Senator Byron Williams**

(The following information has been provided by Senator Williams who attended as Faculty Senate Representative)

- The committee discussed **CTAC Room upgrades**. There were several rooms identified that have outdated equipment. In the past, the committee only identified rooms with no equipment and targeted those for new installs. ITS decided it needed to review current installations and update several units.
  
- **Cybersecurity awareness week** will be held this year from Tuesday - Thursday, October 16th-19th. There will be panel discussions on relevant cyber topics and special guest speakers presenting at sessions each afternoon.
  
- **Canvas** - The Provost's office is still mulling a decision to adopt a new learning management system, Canvas. ITS held technical demonstrations on campus in August and has its own internal

Canvas evaluation environment. If adopted, ITS would run Blackboard alongside Canvas for one year then switch everyone on campus. One current issue however is Blackboard's delay in providing a quote for a one year contract extension (typically 5 years). If Blackboard is unable to provide a quote for one year, then implementation of Canvas may be sped up, but a decision has yet to be made.

- **DUO** - Two factor authentication is required for all Category 1 data users. After a review of Cat 1 requirements, it's was found that over 3700 employees meet Category 1 requirements (all faculty) due to policy and privacy restrictions on certain types of data (e.g, FERPA requirements). Starting October 16 all Cat 1 users that have yet to setup 2-factor auth will be presented a nag screen (message indicating 2 factor is required) each time they login. Steve Parrot will send an email to all Cat 1 personnel with a reminder of the Cat 1 requirements.
  
- **MyCourses Marking** - The committee voted on two changes that impact the way courses are marked and combined for myCourses each semester. Currently, faculty must manually mark a course for myCourses. The committee voted in favor of a proposed change to automate this process where each University course would be marked for myCourses by default. Previously, there were data limitations that made automatic marking undesirable for ITS. These limitations are no longer in place. Automatic marking would also eliminate a number of student initiated trouble tickets / calls stemming from confusion by students enrolled in a course but unable to access that course in myCourses. The myCourses page for each course will now contain an ITS generated message (indicating the instructor has not yet added content) that will be presented to the student upon logging into a course. The second changed approved by the committee will require faculty to manually combine courses in myCourses. This process was previously automated. Instructors will now be given the option to combine courses and will provide more flexibility for instructors that desire separate environments for each course (e.g., split level courses, courses with multiple sections). Steve mentioned it is much easier programmatically to combine a course than it is for them to separate it and this change will increase instructor flexibility and help to streamline their processes.
  
- **OP Policy 1.26** - The committee voted to approve minor changes to OP 1.26 Access to systems containing sensitive info

#### **Design Review Committee-October 4, 2017**

- **Agenda included discussion of the following projects prior to presentation to the Master Plan and Development and Advisory Committee (MPDAC) for consideration**
  - Left Field Lofts-There was much discussion regarding the design presented. It was noted that the architects had addressed several of the original points since the previous presentation. It was requested that the planned second phase be presented to the committee, in order to see the full scope of the proposed project. It was also noted that there needs to be sufficient safe guards from the access road for pedestrians.
  - North Parking Garage-There was discussion regarding the North Parking Garage that will be located at Bailey Howell Drive. The garage would be 5 levels providing 500 spaces. There was discussion regarding the importance of identifying traffic flow to and from

the garage and clearly identifying pedestrian entry ways and vehicle entry ways. Initial discussion included the installation of solar panels at the top for energy conservation for the lighting of the garage.

- College View Project
  - Site is where Aiken Village used to be located.
  - Public-Private Partnership (P3)
  - Would include residential housing (4-story) for students and would provide a unique on-campus/off-campus experience. (~656 beds-first phase)
  - Will provide ~50,000 square feet retail space.
  - Initial comments from the committee
    - Need for sufficient and safe access to campus for students living at the facility.
    - Impact of increased vehicle traffic on College View Street
    - Discussion of view of project from Highway 82. Potential road from Hwy 82 to facility.
    - Requesting of additional detail and information for project

### **Academic Operating Policies (AOP) Extended Beyond 4-year Cycle Review**

<a href="#">Number ▲</a>	<a href="#">Title</a>	<a href="#">Date</a>	<a href="#">Attachment</a>
10.03	<a href="#">Deans Council and Associate Deans Council</a>	04-12-2012	None
10.05	<a href="#">Nepotism</a>	12-05-2012	None
10.15	<a href="#">Substantive Changes</a>	08-13-2013	None
11.05	<a href="#">Requirements for Shortened-Format Courses</a>	11-21-2013	None
11.06	<a href="#">Study Abroad</a>	11-06-2012	None
12.02	<a href="#">Withdrawal from the University</a>	06-01-2010	None

<a href="#">Number ▲</a>	<a href="#">Title</a>	<a href="#">Date</a>	<a href="#">Attachment</a>
12.08	<a href="#">Requirements for Degrees, Academic Minors, and Certificate Programs</a>	12-05-2012	None
12.12	<a href="#">Credit and Grades</a>	08-12-2013	None
12.23	<a href="#">Cooperative Education Program</a>	09-20-2013	None
12.25	<a href="#">Pass-Fail Option</a>	02-05-2013	None
12.30	<a href="#">Developmental Studies</a>	04-23-2012	None

12.36	<a href="#">Repeat Policy</a>	04-12-2012	None
12.38	<a href="#">Undergraduate Academic Advisement</a>	04-23-2012	None
13.05	<a href="#">Faculty Grievance Procedures</a>	05-18-2012	None
13.07	<a href="#">Academic Promotion and Tenure</a>	08-27-2013	None
13.20	<a href="#">Exit Interviews of Departing Faculty</a>	05-11-2012	None
13.21	<a href="#">Faculty Released Time for Specified Committee Chairs</a>	09-15-2011	None
21.01	<a href="#">Graduate Admission Criteria</a>	04-12-2012	None
32.01	<a href="#">Mississippi State University Library</a>	12-01-2006	None
34.01	<a href="#">Special Teaching Programs</a>	12-01-2006	None

### **Operating Policies (OP) Extended Beyond 4-year Review Cycle**

<i>Number ▲</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Attachment</i>
01.07	<a href="#">Whistleblower Policy</a>	08-04-2009	None
01.09	<a href="#">Principles for University Governance</a>	09-12-2013	None
01.20	<a href="#">Use of Copyrighted Works for Education and Research</a>	02-14-2008	None
60.103	<a href="#">Recruitment and Selection</a>	10-02-2012	None
60.104	<a href="#">Employment Authorization</a>	10-02-2012	<a href="#">Attachment</a>
60.320	<a href="#">Office Hours-Work Schedule</a>	10-02-2012	None
60.401	<a href="#">Guidelines for Employee Conduct</a>	10-22-2012	None
60.501	<a href="#">Workforce Development</a>	10-02-2012	None
91.109	<a href="#">Dissent, Disruption and Academic Freedom</a>	09-26-2011	None
91.150	<a href="#">Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy</a>	01-23-2012	None
91.177	<a href="#">Extended Orientation for International Students</a>	07-16-2012	None
91.178	<a href="#">Policy on University Scholarship Programs and Procedures</a>	05-23-2013	None

**Academic Operating Policy Extended Beyond 4-Year Review Cycle (Currently in Review??)**

10.02	<a href="#">Academic Administrators and Directors</a>	04-28-2009	None
10.07	<a href="#">Veterans Administration: Students</a>	11-26-2005	None
13.01	<a href="#">Emeritus Appointments</a>	09-15-2011	None
13.11	<a href="#">Academic Freedom</a>	04-12-2012	In Process
13.14	<a href="#">Grade Appeal &amp; Academic Review Board</a>	04-28-2009	None
13.15	<a href="#">Evaluation of Teaching Performance</a> 0	08-02-2006	None
13.24	<a href="#">Annual Faculty Review Process</a> 1	10-14-2011	None
12.26	<a href="#">Undergraduate Credit by Examination</a>	04-12-2012	In Process

**Academic Operating Policy Revision of Listing**

12.21	<a href="#">Veterans Academic Status</a>	09-20-2013	None
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Respectfully Submitted,

Brent Fountain, RHFS President

**REPORT OF THE FACULTY SENATE VICE PRESIDENT**

Academic Deans Council –

At the September 18 meeting of the Deans Council, there were several informational items presented, as well as consideration of four AOPs. The Two-Factor Authentication “Nag Screen” and an option to provide online syllabi in Banner were presented by ITS personnel. Also, there was an update on the Complete to Compete program, for which MSU was the first to get an approved program in place with the IHL Board. We had received over 300 inquiries at that time, and were at the point where we can award eight degrees without any additional coursework being necessary. Also, a presentation by Rodney Pearson outlined a proposal for a pilot summer program for incoming freshmen with more than one ACT sub-score less than 17 (other than Science) which would also strongly encourage thus these students participate in this program. Finally, the four AOPs that appear in the agenda for today were considered by the council, with all four being approved and sent on to Faculty Senate.

Community Engagement Committee (CEC)–

Due to a scheduled meeting with the Provost and President Fountain, I was unable to attend the September 19 meeting of the CEC, but Laurie Grace was able to attend in my place. There was a discussion of the spring Faculty Roundtable, which was focused on understanding community engagement by faculty, as well as discussion of how to increase their incentives to participate in it. A survey for faculty and administration to gauge knowledge of and participation in Community Engagement (CE) is being tested, as well as a separate survey for students. Additional questions are being added to the IAS form from Sponsored Programs in order to capture CE content, as well as in applications for the Undergraduate Research Symposium and the Graduate Research Symposium. There was some discussion regarding the capture of CE events by way of OrgSync, but there was disagreement about how effective that has been. Several other initiatives to better publicize the CE content that already exists were discussed, as well as the fact that there are ten professors working to register, revise, or create eight different courses with Community Engagement-Learning content.

#### Special Events and Game Day Operations Committee –

Sept. 6 – A wide variety of comments from people regarding the Charleston Southern game were discussed. Many were subjective, but some were substantive. The substantive ones included excessive trash left lying around in certain areas and the fact that some buildings were not locked as planned, both of which seem to be ongoing issues. For the new “Courtesy Carts”, only 10 of the 18 scheduled drivers actually were there, so there were only 10 carts in operation that day. The JumboTron had an electrical issue, despite the fact that everything checked out earlier in the week. Finally, there was an incident where a private party contracted to have a portable restroom delivered, despite that fact that this is not allowed. (We have a contract with a supplier already, and any other such contracts violate that one.) More on this to follow...

Sept. 13 – A pair of golf cart requests were presented. After discussion, it was determined that the existing Courtesy Carts would provide a more effective service than could be provided by the first request, so that request was denied. The second request was to request permission to deliver equipment to the First Aid stations in the stadium approximately four hours before game time, and was approved. Custodial support for game day operations was discussed and approved, with three staff approved for each open building for the LSU game. Notice was given regarding the SEC Nation event that began on Wednesday evening with the arrival of the truck, and ending after the game began.

Sept. 20 – A recap of the LSU game was given where it was mentioned that there were 61,000+ in attendance. A pair of traffic accidents led to some congestion after the game due to limited lanes of traffic. It was also observed that the new Hail State Boulevard didn’t flow properly, and there may need to be some changes in turn signal operations and/or lane redesign. (MDOT engineers were there to observe, and will send a report regarding their recommendations.) Trash in the Junction was again a problem in certain areas (notably NOT by Southern Traditions). Also, there were several buildings that should have been locked but were open (due to someone as yet to be determined unlocking them). Initial discussion was had concerning when the limit should be for early tent drop-off for future games. (Some tents were dropped off as early as Thursday a.m., which causes problems for groundskeeping staff.)

Sept. 27 – A new resolution was passed by the committee stating that no tents would be allowed to be laid out on the grass prior to 5 a.m. on the day before the game. Items left before that time will be treated as abandoned property, and disposed of. Also, a resolution was passed stating that only portable toilets owned or rented by MSU will be allowed on campus. A request was made by CSpire to deploy a COLT to enhance cell phone reception in the Junction. Tentative approval was given, after discussion of the fact that there could not be any fiber optic cable laid across the tailgating areas.

Senator Wilmoth asked how the public was being notified with regards to the restriction on leaving tents prior to the game. Vice President Follett replied that the Office of Public Relations was supposed to announce the change as well as the game day regulations being updated. He added that at the first game the new policy would not be enforced, but for future events it would.

Oct. 4 – Approval was given for the use of a state-owned truck to transport items to a tailgating area up to two hours before game time. Further discussions regarding the CSpire request from the previous meeting updated the committee on the results of the ongoing discussions regarding the COLT, followed by final approval. Continuing discussions of excessive trash in certain areas of the Junction led to a decision to have Public Affairs put out a press release regarding “responsible tailgating”. Approvals were given for a student organization sponsored event “Stand up against Modern Slavery”, as well as parking for a high school state volleyball tournament on October 26 and 28. The only other item of discussion was in regard to the status of Junction John and Junction Jane being near their “end of life”. Continual repairs have been necessary in order to keep them operational, and consideration is being given to not using them in future seasons.

Textbook Committee –

The first meeting of this committee for this academic year has not yet been scheduled.

Undergraduate Research and Creative Discovery Committee –

The first meeting of this committee for this academic year has not yet been scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Follett

## **FACULTY DESIGNATES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

**(C.P. Coyne October 13, 2017)**

**University Anti-Bullying Ad Hoc Committee: Policy and Procedure**

Sub-Committee1: Training and Communications.....Judy Spencer  
Sub-Committee 2: Position Statement and Policy/Procedure.....C.P. Coyne

- Reference university anti-bullying notice statements have been assembled for committee review
- Definitions of the wide spectrum of different types of bullying behavior have been assembled
- Reference university policy and procedures has been assembled for design of the review process
- Recent recommendations have proposed drafting independent policy and procedure document
  - OP 03.03 - Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy
  - OP 03.02 - Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action
  - OP 60.401 - Guidelines for Employee Conduct

A draft document has been composed that is accompanied by options for reporting and investigating bullying behavior at universities across the nation. Challenges associated with anti-bullying policy and procedure include the following

- Consistent uniform implementation of policy (what bothers some does not bother others)
- Consistent uniform interpretation of bullying behavior
- Potential for reporting system to be overwhelmed if the threshold for infractions is very low
- Who and how many individuals will decide if an infraction has occurred
- Who and how many individuals will investigate possible infractions
- How will individuals be selected that will be involved in investigating possible infractions?

#### **Promotion and Tenure Work Shops**

- A total of 90 faculty and department heads participated in the workshop
- Faculty Handbook Considerations
  - Impact of Strategic Plan and Focused Investments on T&P expectations
  - Minor FTE assignment and Requirement for Excellence in a Single Academic Mission
    - One department Assistant Professor with Excellent in all 3 academic missions
    - With 10% in service and 10% in research
    - One department Assistant Professor with weak dossier but exceptionally strong productivity in 10% service which is much stronger than the other faculty member
    - Department T&P can be reluctant to issue excellence in minor FTE assignments
  - Promotion is usually based on review and evaluation of past accomplishments
  - Tenure is a speculative endorsement regarding the probability for a sustainable, productive level of productivity that merits approval for future employment.
    - Relevance to the following three scenarios
      - Assistant Professor early promotion without tenure
      - Assistant Professor hired at rank of Associate Professor without tenure
      - Administrator hired with a 1-year tenure probationary period.
  - External Letters of Review: History and Implementation
    - Implementing external faculty peer reviewers in the same field of specialization as a candidate applying for tenure and/or promotion while at the same time specifying their basic credentials requirements originated from a perceived need to develop an additional objective mechanism of evaluation. In this

manner it became easier to defend tenure and promotion of faculty while at the same time it increased objectivity which was particularly beneficial when concerns existed regarding inconsistencies at the department or college level.

- Requirements for the number of external reviewers was first increased to  $n = 6$  then reduced to  $n = 4$ .
- Originally, the degree that letters of evaluation influenced T&P decisions/recommendations was relatively small. When requirements for external letters of evaluation in the T&P process were increased then their relative contribution to the formulation of recommendation rose markedly to a higher level.
- In heterogeneous department composed of faculty from many different (un-related) fields of specialization and expertise the application of external letters of evaluation often was the only time during the probationary period when a faculty member was truly evaluated by another faculty that would clearly be considered a fellow peer in the same field of specialization discipline as referred to in the Faculty Handbook, AOP 13.07, AOP 13.24, and OP 01.21.
- Some department head and department faculty consider the implementation of external letters of evaluation excessively restrictive and their interpretation over-emphasized.
- The amount of time that has to be devoted to the management of external letters of evaluation by department heads is significant.

**University Committee on Courses and Curricula (UCCC).....September 8, 2017**

UCCC Bylaws Review initiated during Fall 2017

Health Promotions Subcommittee

Courses 8553 and 8556

- No problems providing the changes described above are made.
- Committee voted in favor to pass this contingent on the changes above.

Agricultural Economics

- AEC 6113, 6213, etc.
  - 6530 and 6623—no issues. 6530 ends in a zero, because it has variable hours.
  - Some courses split level but no discussion of differences in levels, but can split in Banner. 4000 level face-to-face. 6000 level available face-to-face and distance.
    -
  - Motion to pass the group of courses contingent on clarifications described above passed.

MABM Distance Degree Program

- Motion to pass the program passed.

Environmental Economics and Management Degree Modification

- BS program
  - Strengthening math requirements to strengthen overall skill level of students.
  - Motion to pass if letters come in or if they do not come in after a second attempt to get letters. Passed by committee.

### Poultry Production Internships

- Adding a campus 5 section of the internship to avoid overrides for students going back and forth between campus 1 and campus 5.
- Committee opines that this should not be campus 5 (not necessary).
- Committee moved to table the discussion until the course leader is consulted.

### Authorization to Plan Early Intervention

- IHL looks at appendix 7 on two dates and at appendix 8 on two other dates. If not on the ball, could be delayed up to a year to push forward a new program.
- IHL will no longer approve anything that says it will be no cost to the university.
- Math error in number of students
- Discussions have not yet occurred with the Department of Physiology
- Courses were submitted within time frame, but they were held up for some reason.
- Department to fund until additional money found.
- Motion to move forward passed.

### Business

- Marketing PGM
  - Multiple courses and a degree
  - Changes mainly in their concentration courses
  - Only minor issues found by subcommittee, but they have been corrected.
  - Motion to pass the proposal passed by the committee.
- Accounting 2023
  - Objectives for course discussed,
  - Request to add for Campus 5 and Maymester. Honor sections available.
  - Passed by committee

### Engineering

- CSC 4773/6773
  - Renumbering to introduce the 4000 level component, so the course had to be renumbered
  - Passed by committee
  -
- IE Degree Modification (33 hours to 30 hours) passed the committee.

### Arts and Sciences

- Bio 8283
  - Previously a special topics course that has gone through the committee twice.
  - Passed the committee
- EN 4863 Romantic Poetry
  - Committee approved
- PS 4643 Ethnic Conflict
  - Committee approved
- PS 4653/6653
  - Committee approved
- Intro to Gender Studies—only change is to add distance

- Committee approved
- General Sciences Program Modification
  - Want to require a grade of C or better in major core courses
  - 30 hours required in one science department
  - Trying to cut out loopholes to make it more difficult to get degree
  - No major differences
  - Will not affect existing students
  - Committee approved modifications

Forest Resources

- Multiple courses
  - Cross-listed courses with same names (three courses)
  - Very minor issues (e.g., catalog description details), but information has been sent to Department.
  - Attendance policy missing.
  - Committee voted to pass contingent on technical changes, catalog changes, and attendance policy added.
- Another course
  - Course to replace two previous wildlife ecology courses (8144 and 8154).
  - Missing attendance policy
  - Lab hours not correct
  - Committee passed contingent on correcting items listed above.

There is currently no policy that concentrations must go in front of any governing body. A concentration can be suspended at any time by a dean without oversight from this, or any committee. IHL guidelines say that after two years of suspension, the concentration will be deleted from the catalog. The Office of the Provost is in support of this proposal but an AOP should be drafted to describe the policy and procedures.

**Faculty Research Advisory Committee (FRAC).....September 28, 2017**

The Office of Sponsored Projects is planning the development of an institutional repository for funded grant proposals in order to benefit the existing infrastructure of the University Library General Repository.

- Proposals will be housed in Mitchell Memorial Library
- Faculty will approve the inclusion of their proposal in the repository
- Proposals will only be available through the application of a restricted search (MSU only)
- Mechanisms for encouraging faculty participation are being reviewed
- Database searches can be performed according to funding agency, funding mechanism, investigator (PI), college, department, and keywords.
- Proposals that have been awarded and successfully completed will likely only be the ones included in the database.
- Proposals in the database will not include budget, pending support, IAS forms, proprietary information.

**Focused Investment in MSU Research Priorities**

- Description of the major important research priorities that combined the innate strengths of the university.

- Descriptions will drive strategic investment decision for MSU over the next five years
- One projected outcome will be achievement of a higher level of international prominence
- Faculty Considerations
  - o Degree of faculty exclusion or inclusion within a department or college and the potential impact on promotion and tenure expectations
  - o Distribution and allocation of existing resources
  - o Loss of research nimbleness

Proposed Research Priorities

Disparity

- Education
- Healthcare
- Nutrition
- Economic Development

Mainstream Autonomy

- Aerial, terrestrial, and subsurface
- Robotics
- Artificial intelligence
- Augmented reality
- Precision agriculture

Securing Future

- Cyber security
- Energy
- Food
- Water
- Health
- Infrastructure

Economic Development

- Advanced manufacturing and materials development
- Sustainable and renewable products
- Entrepreneurship
- Logistics

Proposed Modifications to Meet Goals and Objectives

- Invest in Strategic Initiatives by Re-Directing Funds
- Faculty Recruitment, Retention and Support (n = 6 mechanisms)
  - o Salary incentives
  - o Targeted hiring
  - o Increase faculty research expectations
  - o Support high-risk endeavors
  - o Support proposal development
  - o Incentivize participation in research focus areas
- Cross College Cluster Hires (n = 3 mechanisms)
  - o Hire internationally prominent faculty into endowed chair positions
  - o Promotion and tenure considerations for cluster hires

- Joint department/college appointments
- Centers and Academic Units (n = 6 mechanisms)
  - Strengthen center/unit relationships
  - Dean and department head evaluation of centers
  - Center involvement in faculty hiring
  - Market centers to academic units
  - F&A distribution challenges
- Creation of Innovation Ecosystems (n = 4 mechanisms)
  - Recognize funded research value
  - Recognize entrepreneurship as vital function of university
  - Reduced real and perceived barriers
  - Utilized technology to establish collaborations
- Curriculum Changes to Support Research Priorities (n = 2 mechanisms)
  - Revise curriculums to address future needs
  - Create nimble means to educate students for future opportunities
- Spur Graduate and Undergraduate Research
- Integrate Global Research and Education to Achieve Results

#### FRAC Description in the Faculty Handbook

- Chaired by the Associate Vice President for Research
- FRAC members include appointed members from the colleges, directors of SPA, and Faculty Senate (n = 1).
- Mission: In collaboration with administration provide an environment that strengthens the University's research and creative endeavors and promote betterment of society.
- FRAC reports to the Associate Vice President for Research

#### Responsibilities

- Advise VP for Research and Economic Development on strategies to grow research
- Advise VP for Research and Economic Development on policies impacting scholarly activity
- Solicit faculty perceptions related to scholarly activities
- Identify opportunities to increase efficiencies, build capacity, and improve communications
- Encourage and support scholarly interests of the MSU community

Restructuring the membership of FRAC and increasing meeting dates are all being considered

#### Mississippi Sales Tax Returns and Growth of E-Commerce

In a recent meeting on the MSU campus representatives to the state legislature reviewed some of the challenges that will likely occur with the formulation of future budget allocations for IHL and Mississippi State University. One opportunity that remains to be fully capitalized upon is improved capture of state sales tax from E-commerce transactions. Faculty interested in contacting a legislator regarding support for the internet sales tax to increase state revenue should ideally recommend that such funds be transferred into the "general fund." The bill the House passed last year would have collected the tax but diverted most of the collected funds to benefit the construction of roads and highways. New money transferred into the "general fund" would be available for other uses such as universities and education.

Similar to the invitation extended to Faculty Senate to address the redesign of the Mississippi State Flag, senators consider it important to draft a letter-of-request that can be forwarded to representatives of the state legislature. Faculty Senate would probably be required to first attain permission from upper level university administration prior to drafting or submitting any type of letter-of-request addressed to state representative in the house or senate.

State Senate Representatives:

Gary Jackson  
PO Box 40  
French Camp, MS 39745  
601-359-3244  
[gjackson@senate.ms.gov](mailto:gjackson@senate.ms.gov)

Angela Turner Ford  
PO Drawer 1500  
West Point, MS 39773  
662-494-6611  
[aturner@senate.ms.gov](mailto:aturner@senate.ms.gov)

State House Representatives:

Gary A. Chism  
PO Box 2343  
Columbus, MS 39704  
662-327-0777  
662-328-7769  
[gchism@house.ms.gov](mailto:gchism@house.ms.gov)

Rob Roberson  
212 East Main Street  
Starkville, MS 39759  
662-324-3810  
662-418-2914  
[rroberson@house.ms.gov](mailto:rroberson@house.ms.gov)

~~Tyrone Ellis~~ - RETIRED – Election to replace Representative Ellis will be Nov 7th

Senator Martin asked if the proposed capturing of ecommerce taxes would be taxing the businesses internet sales or consumers in Mississippi. Senator Coyne replied that the specifics were not disclosed in the meeting.

President Fountain said that Provost Bonner was currently circulating the proposed anti-bullying policy for comments. He added that the Provost thanked Senate for their attention to this matter.

President Fountain said that Vice President Shaw will be at the November Senate meeting to discuss the new research priorities.

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

### **1. AOP 13.11 Academic Freedom**

President Fountain said that the Executive Committee recommends that the policy be reviewed by Academic Affairs. The motion to send AOP 13.11 Academic Freedom to Academic Affairs passed by unanimous hand vote.

### **2. AOP 13.13 Leave Policies**

President Fountain said that the motion from the Executive Committee is to send the policy to the Faculty Affairs Committee. He added that the policy is set for rescission. Senator Potter asked why the policy is proposed for rescission. Senator Strawderman replied that the policy just points to a Human Resources policy. The motion to send AOP 13.13 Leave Policies to the Faculty Affairs Committee passed by unanimous hand vote.

### **3. AOP 12.26 Undergraduate Credit by Examination**

President Fountain said that the motion from the Executive Committee is to send the policy to the Academic Affairs Committee. The motion to send AOP 12.26 Undergraduate Credit by Examination to the Academic Affairs Committee passed by unanimous hand vote.

### **4. AOP 12.32 Refund or Course Credit Policy for Student Members of the Military Called to Active Duty or Deployed**

President Fountain said that the motion from the Executive Committee is to send the policy to the University Resources Committee. The motion to send AOP 12.32 Refund or Course Credit Policy for Student Members of the Military Called to Active Duty or Deployed to the University Resources Committee passed by unanimous hand vote.

### **5. Letter for Study and Recommendation from Dr. Tom Carskadon, Professor of Psychology**

President Fountain said that the Executive Committee recommends that the request for review be sent to the Student Affairs Committee. Senator Musser asked why this request would not be sent to Academic Affairs. President Fountain replied that the Executive Committee was trying to spread the workload among several committees due to the large number of items being brought

to Senate. Ms. Holladay asked if the plus/minus grading would apply to both graduate and undergraduate courses. President Fountain replied that the report of the committee should include that information. Ms. Durr asked if the students would be polled to determine their opinion of plus/minus grading. President Fountain replied that the committee would be able to collect all of the information from all groups that have a vested interest in the outcome. The motion to send the letter of request to the Student Affairs Committee passed by unanimous hand vote.

**6. Letter for Study and Recommendation from Dr. Kelly Moser, Assistant Professor, Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education**

President Fountain said that there are several questions that the letter poses for review. He explained that the Executive Committee decided to split the items between two committees based on their scope. He said that policies related to curricular modification and current termination policies as a result of program or concentration modification are to be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee. It is recommended that the remaining questions including what protection is available to faculty at risk of termination due to low program or concentration enrollment, MSU policies related to faculty responsibilities with regard to recruitment, retention, and graduation of students, policies relating to issuing terminal contracts to tenure-track faculty in years 1-5 vs. year 6, and MSU's process for issuing a terminal contract be sent to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Senator Spain asked that the Faculty Affairs Committee also consider instructor and lecturer positions with regard to the first two questions assigned to them.

Senator Wilmoth asked if the second question to be assigned to Academic Affairs may be better suited to Faculty Affairs. President Fountain replied that the Executive Committee decided to send the question to Academic Affairs due to workload concerns as well as the fact that Academic Affairs may find pertinent information while reviewing policies for their other question.

Senator Pelaez asked why the letter was not provided in the agenda. President Fountain replied that precedence exists that allows the letter to be withheld. He said that providing the letter would have required further steps to be taken which would delay assigning to committee and the review of the questions posed. Senator Spain said that she felt that having the original letter provided would allow for conversation on the Senate floor that would aid the committees in their review. Senator Pelaez said that she worries that the questions are being asked without context. Senator Williams said that the submitter's wishes should be considered as well. President Fountain said that the submitter is not the only person that would be affected by the release of the original letter. Senator Musser said that he believed that the letter should not be provided so that the Senate can act on the policy without regard for context. He added that the policy should be solid regardless of context in the future. Senator Pelaez said that the context could allow for a

more comprehensive policy to be created. Senator Williams said that the committees that are looking at the issues should have access to the original letter.

Senator Spain asked who the letter was addressed to. President Fountain replied that the letter was addressed to the Faculty Senate President.

Vice President Follett said that the committees that are assigned the questions will have the opportunity to interview other external people. He said that information will be provided to the committees and they may pursue the questions as they see fit.

Senator Herd said that the author of the letter is present and could provide input on whether to publish the letter or not. Senator Addy said that the others that are mentioned in the letter are not present and would need to be contacted before its release.

Senator Pelaez said that she assumes that the letter contains certain facts and situations. The questions are very specific and should worry all faculty. President Fountain replied that the role of Senate is to look at the policy as it applies across all units. Senator Barefield said that the questions are really just asking what policy is already in place.

Senator Spain asked if the committees will be able to see the original letter. Senator Williams said that it is his understanding that the committees will have access to any information that they request to help them render a decision. Senator Larson said that she understands the argument for viewing the letter for context, but having the letter appear in the published agenda and minutes could easily be detrimental to the requesting faculty member.

Senator Herd asked if the Executive Committee had seen the letter. President Fountain replied that they had. Senator Herd asked if the committees would have access to the original letter. President Fountain replied that the committee chairs are aware of the contents of the letter. Senator Herd asked if administrators were named in the letter and that is why it cannot be provided. Secretary Jones replied that there are many people named in the letter, not just administrators.

Senator Coyne said that the bylaws state that the President receive requests, but it does not say that the requests must be included in the agenda. The topic is to be objectively addressed.

Senator Strawderman said that the Executive Committee rigorously debated whether to provide the letter or not. She added that the committees follow due diligence when reviewing assignments. She said that Dr. Moser could be invited to a committee meeting to provide information. She said that the letter not being included in the packet will not affect the outcome of the committee report.

Senator Pelaez said that if a concentration has been terminated, Senate needs to address it. President Fountain replied that the committees would address that. He pointed out that the bylaws require that committees report on their assignments in a timely manner.

Senator Pelaez said issues should be decided with context. President Fountain replied that he did not believe that having the letter creates an advantage for the committees. He said that the committees will report with the facts as to what policies do or do not exist.

Secretary Jones asked if the individuals named in the letter are contacted and give approval for the release of the letter, could the whole Faculty Senate be provided with the letter. President Fountain replied that he believed that they could. Secretary Jones asked if there was a process to request permission from those involved. President Fountain replied that the author would have to be contacted first to allow for the letter to be provided to the named individuals. If this is permitted the other individuals could be contacted. Secretary Jones asked that the Executive Committee take this matter up.

Senator Musser said that it looked as though the questions could be answered by simply looking up the policies. President Fountain replied that while that was true, the committee also has the ability to recommend any course of action that they see fit.

Senator Thompson asked if there was a policy to determine what information should be withheld from the Senate as a whole. President Fountain replied that there is not a policy in place. Senator Thompson asked if it is possible that the non-policy was used unevenly. President Fountain replied that as President, he will always err on the side of providing more information. He added that it should not be expected in every instance that the original request be provided. He said that he relies heavily on the Executive Committee to determine the correct course of action.

Senator Spain asked if the letter could be provided with the names redacted. President Fountain replied that the Executive Committee discussed that option but determined that without the names the individuals named would still be able to be identified.

The motion to send the questions to the Academic Affairs and Faculty Affairs committees as listed passed by unanimous hand vote.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Academic Affairs**                      No Report

**Ancillary Affairs**                      No Report

**Charter & Bylaws**                      No Report

**Faculty Affairs**

### **1. AOP 13.23 Faculty Workload**

Senator Strawderman, on behalf of the Faculty Affairs Committee, presented the report on AOP 13.23. She said that the committee recommends revising the policy to include faculty needs. She pointed out that issues previously raised by Senate were researched and found to be present in other policies and documents.

Senator Spain asked if the paragraph that was in question previously was deleted. Senator Strawderman replied that Senate voted to delete the paragraph at the last meeting. Senator Spain said that the paragraph contained recommendations to the Department Heads. She added that the policy leaves it to their discretion. Senator Strawderman replied that the committee felt that the policy did not leave it to the Department Heads discretion, but was a collaboration between the head and the faculty member. If there is an issue it can be handled through chain of command. Senator Spain said that is not the case if the individual is not tenured. She said that there is uneven use of how situations are handled across campus. This is why the language is important. Senator Strawderman replied that the committee felt there was ample guidance available to Department Heads in other documents. The committee also felt that the faculty member could bring ideas and suggestions to the department.

Senator Coyne said that the policy does not make mention of keeping within the faculty members training when redistributing workload. Senator Strawderman said that “talents” is stated. Senator Wilmoth said that “expertise” may be a better term. Senator Coyne said the “expertise” or “discipline” would keep the language consistent with other policies.

Senator Herd said that a link to the location where other guidance is stated could be included in this policy so it can be found more easily. President Fountain said that the risk of doing that is that something may be missed making it an incomplete list. Senator Herd made a friendly amendment to add “(see AOP 13.03 Responsibilities in Instruction and the Guidelines for Faculty Parental Leaves of Absence for examples)”. The friendly amendment was accepted by the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Senator Lemley asked why the policy only applies to tenure-track faculty. President Fountain replied that other faculty are covered under OP 56.06 Research, Extension, and Clinical Faculty Positions.

Senator Spain asked if other peer institutions were researched to see what the comparable policies are with regard to maternity leave. Senator Strawderman replied that the committee did not since things such as maternity leave were Human Resource Management policies. Senator Spain asked if peer institutions dealt with things such as maternity leave in a similar fashion. Senator Strawderman replied that she did not know.

Senator Wilmoth made a friendly amendment to change the word “talents” to “expertise”. The Faculty Affairs Committee accepted the friendly amendment.

The motion to accept AOP 13.23 Faculty Workload passed by majority hand vote.

**Student Affairs**                      No Report

**University Resources**              No Report

## **SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **PENDING BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Letter from Dr. Tom Fisher, Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus**

President Fountain said that a letter was received regarding the public vote to sell the Oktibbeha County Hospital. He said that due to the political nature of the decision Faculty Senate could not take a position either way. He added that the Executive Committee does encourage everyone in the MSU community to educate themselves about the decision and voice their opinion at the polls on November 7<sup>th</sup>.

Senator Burt made a motion to adjourn. Senator Williams seconded the motion.

After a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Submitted for correction and approval.

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Mary Ann Jones, Secretary

Jason Cory, Administrative Assistant II

Presentation to MSU Faculty Senate  
Friday, October 13, 2017  
- Student Athlete Grades  
- Athletic Council

Steve Turner  
Faculty Athletic Representative

### **Student Athlete (Scholarship) Grades – Spring 2017 (Fall 2016)**

The All Sport (Men and Women) GPA was 2.90 (3.01), with a Men's Sports GPA of 2.63 (2.78) and a Women's Sports GPA of 3.27 (3.30). The Fall 2016 All Sport GPA of 3.01 was the third highest since data was recorded in 1993 (Fall 2012 - 3.04). Football had a Spring 2017 GPA of 2.30, which was lower than the Fall 2016 GPA of 2.67 which tied their second highest GPA since 1994. There were 85 (102) student-athletes who made the Dean's or President's Scholar list and 178 (205) student-athletes earned a Spring 2017 GPA of 3.00 or higher. 36 student-athletes graduated in Spring 2017. The Spring 2017 (Fall 2016) GPA for each team was:

Baseball	2.72 (2.71)
Men's Basketball	2.47 (2.37)
Football	2.30 (2.67)
Men's Golf	3.23 (3.18)
Men's Tennis	3.18 (3.38)
Men's Track	2.97 (2.98)
Women's Basketball	2.98 (3.07)
Women's Golf	3.37 (3.18)
Women's Softball	3.20 (3.24)
Women's Soccer	3.37 (3.44)
Women's Tennis	3.48 (3.60)
Women's Track	3.35 (3.35)
Women's Volleyball	3.01 (3.12)

### **Athletic Council**

The Athletic Council at Mississippi State University is composed of faculty, students, staff, administrators, and alumni and reports to the President of the University and advises him on matters pertaining to athletics. As the Faculty Athletic Representative, it is my responsibility to chair the Athletic Council and coordinate meetings, set the agenda in consultation with the President and Athletic Director, and appoint committees to conduct specific tasks relating to athletics and academic affairs. One of the goals of the Council is to serve as an educational conduit between academics and athletics. For example, the athletic department budget is reviewed each year where explanation and clarification is a priority.

Faculty members on the Council serve three year terms and are nominated to the President by the Faculty Senate President and the Faculty Athletic Representative after consultation between the two. Other groups represented are the Staff Council, Student Government Association, M-Club, Bulldog Club, Alumni Association, and University and Athletic Administration.

The Council meets monthly during the academic year to review and discuss issues relevant to students-athletes at Mississippi State University.