

**ROBERT HOLLAND FACULTY SENATE  
UNCORRECTED MINUTES OF MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2004**

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate of Mississippi State University held its regular meeting in the John Grisham Room of the Mitchell Memorial Library at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, September 10, 2004.

Members absent and excused were Kent Coffey, PC McLaurin, Peter Ryan, Rick Travis, Adam Telle, and Mark Zappi.

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.facultysenate.msstate.edu>.

President Mark Goodman called the meeting to order.

President Goodman referred to the minutes of the April 16, 2004, Regular Meeting as distributed. Senator Montgomery moved, Senator D'Abramo seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate approve the minutes of April 16, 2004. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

President Goodman thanked Frances Coleman, Dean of Libraries, for allowing the Faculty Senate to meet in the Mitchell Memorial Library's Grisham Room while Memorial Hall's Coskrey Auditorium is under repair.

President Goodman introduced and welcomed new Senators: Troy Blanchard, Michael Brashier, David Bridges, Kent Coffey, Susan Diehl, Marita Gootee, Homes Hogue, James Martin, Meghan Millea, Al Myles, Jeanne Swafford, and Rick Travis. He also introduced Adam Telle, the new Student Association President.

**GUESTS**

President Goodman introduced guests: Dr. Charles Lee, President; Dr. Peter Rabideau, Provost; and Mr. Ray Hayes, Vice President for Finance and Administration.

**RAY HAYES, VP FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Hayes provided the following information:

- MSU, like most campuses, has a parking problem and Hayes outlined some proposals which might alleviate some of these problems asking the Senate for feedback. Components of these proposals include more perimeter parking and more restrictive parking in the center of campus. The center of campus would be more for faculty and staff

parking with students parking more along the perimeter. Using a map, Hayes pointed out the gravel parking lot to the south of campus, west of Hardy Road and stated that one proposal would be to pave approximately 600 spaces in this lot by Fall 2005. Also the lot on the east side of Stone Blvd., another 600 spaces would be paved by Fall 2005. He also pointed out several parking areas (highlighted in red on the map) within the center of campus which he proposes should be more restrictive by using a gated lot system or some other system to keep students from parking in these lots.

- Using the map, Hayes also pointed out several roads which will be modified during the next year.
- All of these proposals will cost money. Hayes would like to look at having the parking fees separated from the E&G budget so that parking is a stand-alone, designated budget which will support the upkeep of the parking lots, roads, and transportation system throughout campus. Starting in Fall 2005, Hayes would like for the costs of parking decals to increase from \$25 per year to \$50 per year for everyone and that parking decals for the restricted lots cost \$120.
- Hayes encouraged Senators to send him feedback about all of these proposals.
- Senator Montgomery asked how many parking spaces were in the proposed restricted lots and Hayes responded that there were approximately 750 spaces available. Montgomery then asked how many of the faculty and staff on campus would these spaces accommodate and Hayes did not know, but that he recommended that we start with these spaces and, if there were more demand, add more lots and spaces to the restricted status to accommodate those wanting restricted parking.
- Senator Bryant asked if and when these restricted lots are operational, should a faculty member have to leave campus during the day, what is the likelihood of getting your (or any) parking space back when you return. Hayes responded that his proposal includes the specific criteria of one-to-one allotment so that if the lot has 30 parking spaces then only 30 specific individuals would have decals for parking in that lot and there should always be a parking space available for those individuals at any time. Hayes also mentioned that realistically 120% of a parking lot could be sold and there should still always be spaces for parking. These and other details would need to be worked out.
- Senator Swafford asked about the possibility of some parking spaces being reserved for specific individuals at a higher cost in addition to the restricted lots. Hayes responded that this has been discussed.
- Senator Berk asked if these proposals were consistent with the University's Master Plan. Hayes responded that it does follow the Master Plan as that plan currently exists.
- Senator Dunaway asked how much revenue is generated by parking situations and where do those funds go. Hayes responded that last year, \$665,365 in parking situations. Dunaway then asked if this was the amount that was recovered or the amount that was issued and Hayes responded that it was the amount that was recovered. Dunaway then asked what this money was used for and Hayes responded that he did not know, but would find out and let the Senate know. Hayes assumes that the funds have been going back into the general operating budget of the university and any specific parking lot, road or transportation requests are paid for out of the general funds. This is why he would like for there to be the separate budget.

- Senator Martin asked what provisions for visitors will be made in these proposals and Hayes responded that some provisions would have to be made, but those details have not yet been worked out.
- Senator Long asked if some of the \$665,365 go toward these parking areas and Hayes responded that, in the past, this money had gone into a general account and not a designated account specifically for parking issues.
- Senator Cathcart asked if there has been any discussion about the MSU transit system going off campus and Hayes responded yes.
- Senator Wood asked if Hayes felt there would be enough individuals interested in purchasing the \$120 decals to fill up the restricted lots as opposed to purchasing the \$50 decals and parking in the perimeter lots. Hayes responded that there seems to be enough individuals so frustrated with the current situation that they will purchase the more expensive decals. If there is not enough demand, then the restricted lots will not be restricted – supply and demand.
- Senator Walter Diehl stated that in addition to the frustrating parking problem, another frustrating situation is the congestion which occurs on the hour or on the hour-and-a-half on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Will creating these restricted lots eliminate some of this congestion once students realize that it is futile to drive around looking for parking in the center of campus. Hayes responded that there have been discussions of not just gating a lot, but also gating the entrance of a street during certain times of the day so that students will not be allowed to drive on them.

## **CHARLES LEE, PRESIDENT**

President Lee provided the following information:

- Lee greeted the Senators and hoped that they all had wonderful summers. He then thanked everyone for helping to get the semester off to a good start.
- Lee stated that the revenue from the parking situations does go into the General Fund and that there is no dedicated use of these funds.
- The State of the State address will be on September 20, 2004, in the Hunter Henry Center at 4:00pm.
- All of the Vice Presidents positions are now filled.
- There will be a formal kickoff of MSU's Capital Campaign next month.
- There has been discussion by the IHL Board pertaining to how they should conduct their business. Measures are being taken to streamline their meetings and Board members have agreed to have some meetings on campuses.
- Some of the newer Board members are trying to push their agenda toward a more policy-based agenda and one that focuses on less on the specifics across campuses.
- In the Legislature, there is some possibility that there will be a special session in the next 30-45 days to deal with bond issues.
- The new IHL Board members took tours of the various campuses recently and they are very concerned about Mississippi Valley's campus, Alcorn's campus and about several other issues. There were only positive comments about MSU.
- There has not been much progress on appropriations for the next session.
- Revenue collections are up about \$10 million per month.

- Health care issues are continuing to crowd higher education issues causing them to fall lower on the list of priorities in every state.
- Lee commented on the unity of the Bulldog family and that he feels it has truly grown strong. The Bulldog Bash should be a success.
- Recent newspaper reports state that there will probably not be a vote on the 2% hotel and restaurant tax. Local alderman have agreed to include student activities at MSU for 20% of the income over the next decade. This amounts to about \$200,000 per year for activities such as Bulldog Bash, concerts, and other events which the University has not been able to support in recent years.
- There are positive comments floating around about starting a new dorm on campus. The occupancy rate in the newly renovated dorms is about 90% while the older dorms' rate is only around 60%. The University's goal is to keep as many freshman on campus as possible because statistics show that students perform better their first year when living on campus.
- Senator Walter Diehl commented that the IHL Board had a request for 15% raises over the next three years and that the legislature seemed to give this a cool response. What are the hopes for raises in the future? Lee responded there does seem to be some concern about being competitive in salaries within universities and within the business community and stated that he hopes that here at MSU, we can have a more predictable salary situation if we manage our resources well within the next two years. He could not say what the legislature will do.
- Senator D'Abramo mentioned that during the summer, there was selection of an Associate Vice President for Student Affairs made. Would Lee update the Senators of how this came about. Lee stated that once you get off campus, people seem to think that MSU has an apparent lack of a clear message about its recruiting game or its enrollment management program. A consulting firm reviewed the entire Student Affairs division and determined that there was an academic side and a student affairs side and that these needed to come together. When interviewing candidates, one person seem to stand out and thus was hired.

## **PETER RABIDEAU, PROVOST**

Provost Rabideau provided the following information:

- Rabideau welcomed the new Senate members.
- Rabideau discussed in general the new 124 hours to degree issue.
- New proposal for post tenure review – The Council of Academic Vice Presidents presented the current post tenure review documents and discussed this issue with the IHL Board trying to determine what direction the Board wanted to go in creating a new post tenure review policy. Revised policies are to be submitted by January 2005.
- Duplicated Graduate Programs – The IHL Board has been very interested in looking at these. Rabideau is not certain where this issue will go from here.
- Number of vacancies at the dean's level – Engineering, Education, Forest Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine. Searches for Engineering and Education began last year and are ongoing. The search committee for the Dean of Forest Resources has

recently been put together and there should be a similar committee for the Dean of Veterinary Medicine soon.

- The new MSU Planning Committee which Rabideau chairs is now in place. Most individuals are elected although some individuals are serving by virtue of their positions. Their first activity was to look at the *Leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Mississippi State University Priorities and Goals* document. What this document lacks is real prioritization and determine how to achieve these objectives.
- A series of brown bag lunches, etc. are to be scheduled to look at some issues of interest to faculty. Such topics will be learning communities and the Honors Program.
- Faculty development is high on Rabideau's radar. Part of this year's new faculty orientation was revamped. Mentoring and attracting quality faculty to MSU are also high on Rabideau's list of concerns.
- Senator Adams-Price asked for a more detailed explanation of learning communities. Rabideau encouraged her to come to the upcoming brown bag on this topic. He stated that he has some materials and PowerPoint documentation that he plans to present at the brown bag which will help to demystify learning communities. In simplistic terms, learning communities comprise a co-hort of students who are taking two or more classes together. Statistics show that students who participate in learning communities rank every element of their college life higher.

### **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Goodman referred to the his report as distributed and added the following remarks:

- The issue of the 124 hour to degree will come before the Senate today and Goodman urged his fellow Senators to act on this today in order to get these issues through all the appropriate channels.
- Goodman announced that MSU is searching for a new NCAA Representative to replace Kirk Arnett.
- September 20, 2004, is MSU's General Faculty meeting.
- October 19, 2004, will be the Fall Roundtable at Plymouth Bluff. Topic is research.

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

Vice President Wood referred to the his report as distributed and added the following remarks:

- Wood serves on the Deans' Council.
- Post tenure review – what IHL Board says is missing from the MSU document is explicit wording that would allow termination of tenured faculty as a result of an unsatisfactory post-tenure review.
- Tenure review – IHL Board is working to not allow faculty to go up for tenure during your fifth year. Everyone would apply only in their sixth year.
- Sabbatical applications will be more favorably viewed if the time period is for a year and not six months and if you will be spending more time away from Starkville than at home.

- The Undergraduate Academic Misconduct and Honor Code has been revised as Vice President Wood states in his report.

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

**Athletic Council** – Senator Dohoney reported that the Council met on August 19, 2004. The Commissioner for the SEC was visiting Starkville campus on this date and stated that the NCAA report is likely to be handed down during the first two weeks of September. The report will possibly be severe because MSU is still on probation. Also athletics finished \$88,000 in the black last year.

**Campus Planning and Development Committee** – Senator Deeds reported that the brick has been approved for the new indoor women's softball facility. The football coach and the baseball coach agreed to build one larger facility for indoor practice rather than two separate smaller facilities. On September 29, 2004, this Committee will spend all afternoon reviewing the long range plan. Deeds encourages Senators to let her know if they have any concerns about the plan which she should bring before this Committee.

## **BUSINESS SENT TO COMMITTEES**

**Letter from Dr. Chamblee, re: 124 Semester Hour Undergraduate Degree** – President Goodman assigned this issue to the Academic Affairs Committee.

**Letter from Dr. Gilbert, re: AOP 12.07 Undergraduate Misconduct** – President Goodman assigned this issue to the Student Affairs Committee.

**Letter from Dr. Gilbert, re: AOP 12.15 Academic Probation** – President Goodman assigned this issue to the Student Affairs Committee.

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

**Letter from Dr. Montgomery, re: SPAM** – Senator Bryant moved, Senator Henington seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Goodman assigned this issue to the Ancillary Affairs Committee.

**Letter from Dr. Goodman, re: Corrections to P&T Policy** – Senator Walter Diehl moved, Senator Myles seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Goodman assigned this issue to the Ancillary Affairs Committee.

**Letter from Dr. Rabideau, re: Post Tenure Review Policy** – Senator Henington moved, Senator Deeds seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Goodman assigned this issue to the Faculty Affairs Committee.

**Letter from Dr. Reichert, re: Job Satisfaction Survey** – Senator Adams-Price moved, Senator Bridges seconded, to refer this issue to committee. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. President Goodman assigned this issue to the University Resources Committee.

**Letter from Dr. Gilbert, re: AOP 13.23 Faculty Workload** – Senator D’Abramo moved, Senator Reichert seconded, that the Senate accept AOP 13.23 Faculty Workload as revised and approved by the Associate Deans Council and the Deans Council. The motion passed on a majority voice vote.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Senator D’Abramo moved, Senator Henington seconded, that the Senate suspend the rules to allow business since the following information did not reach all Senators before the three-day deadline. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote.

## **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Senator D’Abramo, chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, referred to this Committee’s report initiated by a letter from Dr. Chamblee dated August 30, 2004, requesting that the Senate review and make any needed changes to the recommendations approved by the University Committee on Courses and Curricula. Senator D’Abramo moved, Senator Wood seconded, that the Senate endorse the following recommendations:

That a maximum of 124 semester hours (unless accreditation or certification requires more) and a minimum of 120 semester hours be required for baccalaureate programs.

That the number of hours of the University Core Curriculum be reduced from 45 to 33, through elimination of 3 hours each of the Computer Literacy, Speech, Junior/Senior Level Writing, and Laboratory Science requirements.

Senator Wood moved, Senator Myers seconded, that debate pertaining to the above motion end by 3:55pm. The motion failed by a majority raised-hand vote (not counted).

Senator Walter Diehl moved, Senator Reichert seconded, that the motion on the table be amended to:

That a maximum of 124 semester hours (unless accreditation or certification requires more) and a minimum of 120 semester hours be required for baccalaureate programs.

That the number of hours of the University Core Curriculum be reduced from 45 to 36, through elimination of 3 hours each of the Computer Literacy, Speech, and Junior/Senior Level Writing requirements.

Senator Deeds moved, Senator Dunaway seconded, to divide the question. This motion failed by a Senate vote of 20-22.

Senator Delgado called for question, seconded by Senator Dohoney. This motion passed by a majority raised-hand Senate vote.

Senator Diehl's motion to strike out and insert his text passed by a Senate vote of 24-16-1.

Senator Bridges moved, Senator Follett seconded, to amend the motion on the floor to read as follows:

That a maximum of 124 semester hours (unless accreditation or certification requires more) and a minimum of 120 semester hours be required for baccalaureate programs.

That the number of hours of the University Core Curriculum be reduced from 45 to 33, through elimination of 3 hours each of the Social Behavioral Sciences, Computer Literacy, Speech, and Junior/Senior Level Writing requirements.

Senator Henington called for question, seconded by Senator Dohoney. This motion passed by a majority raised-hand vote.

Senator Bridges motion failed by a Senate vote of 8-35.

Senator Bridges called for question, seconded by Senator Walter Diehl. This motion passed by a majority raised-hand vote.

Senator Diehl's original motion passed by a Senate vote of 31-10.

#### **ANCILLARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **CHARTER AND BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **FACULTY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

No report.

#### **UNIVERSITY RESOURCES**

No report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution of support for the University of Mississippi** – Senator Wood moved, Senator Reichert seconded, that the Robert Holland Faculty Senate adopt the resolution of support for the University of Mississippi. The motion passed on a unanimous voice vote of the Senate.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Submitted for correction and approval.

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LaDonne Delgado, Secretary