

MUW FACULTY SENATE  
October 14, 2022  
Zoom Meeting

In attendance:

Alpe, Kristy	Murphy, Chad
Ball, Laura	Newman, Kathy
Dowdy, Carol	Phelon, Shonda
Heda, Shyam	Shyam, Heda
Hooks, JW	Smith, Melissa
Hurley, Susan	Stratyner, Leslie
Krogh, Holly	Todd, Terry
Larson, Nichole	Yarbrough, Lestonio
Lenoir, Shana	

Absent:

Childers, Ian  
Baulch, Deana

1. President Holly Krogh called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.
2. Approval of Minutes from September- The minutes were approved via email by the senators. A motion to approve was made by Shonda Phelon and seconded by Laura Ball with the necessary corrections.
3. Committee Reports
  - a. Fund A and Faulty Foundation Funds (i.e., Fund B) updates- The committee approved applicants for foundation funds. Level 1 will award \$350 and Level 2 will award \$175 reported President Krogh. She stated \$4150 is available in Fund A and as senators we should encourage faculty to apply. President Krogh stated that the committee has approved two Fund B awards. There are two pending applicants and the available balance is \$3216 in Fund B.
  - b. Administrative Council- President Krogh update the senators in a written report on 10/7/2022 as follows:
    - more on-campus events are happening, which may require an adjustment period as we return to in-person formats
    - today's open house has 46 prospective students signed up
    - news about our potential name change has gotten lots of attention nationwide
    - most reactions have been positive and enthusiastic; Staff Council reported general support; the Student Government Association is including the issue in their needs assessment survey that opens Monday the 10th and is drafting a letter of support for the process
      - o an outside consultant will manage the survey and focus groups
      - o listening sessions will inform the survey, which will be open for a week or so starting October 14
      - o survey responses will inform the focus groups
      - o it is expected that a potential new name will be clear after the focus groups have completed their work
      - o reports will be shared throughout the process

- our technology network infrastructure will be upgraded in all buildings this year; most of this will occur afterhours, but there will be downtimes
  - Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) listening sessions are scheduled for the last 2 weeks of October; faculty input from all departments is needed—the plan is still being developed; participation in the QEP process is something that is looked at for SACS accreditation
  - another issue for accreditation is the accuracy of our publications; Carla Lowery is asking everyone to review our publications, in particular those where we might have an old version of the mission that must be updated
  - open enrollment for benefits has begun; sessions are mandatory for all employees because the offerings have changed; representatives will be on campus from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the week of the 17th
  - the Counseling Center has several vendors set up in the W Room from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesday the 11th to promote mental health awareness
  - Oktoberfest is scheduled for the 14th; family friendly; food trucks; many student organizations are bouncing back from lower involvement during the pandemic and would appreciate our support
  - Welty Writers' Symposium and Gala are coming up at the end of October
  - our faculty and staff giving rate is 53%, which is higher than the national average of ~30%
- c. Academic Council-Vice President Larson reported the council reviewed a policy from Information Technology Service Department. The department is currently reviewing and removing inactive students from Banner. Vice President Larson stated this review will help with student registration issues.
- d. Planning & Institutional Effectiveness (PIE) Council- Shana Lenoir stated the council met last month. Subcommittees have been formed to review program assessment plans as a part of the SACSCOC compliance.
4. Unfinished Business
- a. Merit raises- President Krogh stated the current provost spoke with the provost from 2015-2016 to request any additional information regarding the merit raises during that time. There is no additional information available regarding the past merit raises. Provost Tollinson stated that moving forward the policy will be upheld. Faculty stated that if merit raises will not be awarded, then merit raises should not be listed in the policy.
- b. Canvas courtesy policy development- President Krogh stated that currently there is not a policy addressing administrators reviewing faculty's learning management system courses. She stated if there is an interest, the Faculty Senate may develop a policy statement. A motion via email was made by Terry Todd to create a subcommittee to create a policy on Canvas Courtesy. Shonda Phelon second the motion via email. Motion was approved by the Faculty Senate via email.
- c. Changes by IHL to contracts, promotion, tenure and post tenure review (to be discussed with Policy Statements 1303, 1304, and 1312)- President Krogh stated this will be discussed during new business.
- d. Review of constitution- President Krogh stated since there was not a quorum, then the senators may not vote on any revisions to the constitution. She also stated the senators will need to review the definition for a quorum because absenteeism from monthly meetings is creating a backlog in committee works.
5. New Business

- a. Representation for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council (DEI)- Nichole Larson stated she has been serving as the faculty senate representative since the creation of the DEI. She shared the council's purpose. Larson asked if another senator would like to serve as the representative. No senator expressed interest in serving and Larson will continue to serve as the faculty senate representative.
  - b. Policy Statements- the faculty senate may not vote on policy revisions or approval without quorum today. She stated we will place the following policies under unfinished business during the November meeting.
    - i. 3508 Undergraduate Curriculum Council
    - ii. 1308 Substantive Change Policy
    - iii. 1304 Tenure of Faculty
    - iv. 1303 Promotion of Faculty
    - v. 1312 Post Tenure Review
  - c. Potential name change
    - i. Request for a letter in support of the *process* being followed--President Krogh stated there has been a request from the faculty senate to create a letter of support on the process of the university name change. President Krogh shared a visual aide of the name change process: taskforce→listening sessions→ survey→focus groups→report). President Krogh stated that the Student Government Association has also been asked to write a letter of support on the process.
    - ii. Department faculty responses-The faculty senators shared the current input received from their respective departments. Most of the departmental attitudes toward a name change *that were shared* were positive. Generally, departments want to keep The W branding.
    - iii. President Miller requested a support letter for the name change process, which passed by email vote.
6. Other
- a. President Krogh provided an anonymous poll for the senators' input on future faculty senate meeting structure. The poll results are 73% via Zoom; 23% hybrid. She stated she will communicate any meeting structure changes for future meetings.

Closing Comments/Adjourn – President Krogh announced our next meeting will be on November 11<sup>th</sup> and the meeting was adjourned.

Sincerely,

Shana Lenoir, MSN, RN  
Faculty Senate Secretary