

## **Minutes: Faculty Senate Meeting 1/13/22**

12:16 Meeting is called to order. In attendance:

Ian Childers, Shyam Heda, Jared Quist, Holly Krogh (president), Susan Hurley, Leslie Stratyner, Jonathon Hooks, Melissa Smith, Kristy Alpe, Lestonio Yarbrough, Carol Dowdy, Shonda Phelon, Laura Ball, Chad Murphy, Deana Baulch

Absent without proxy: Kathy Newman, Shana Lenoir, and Terry Todd. Proxy for Nichole is Jared Quist. Holly mentions unavoidable absences, but stresses that we still have a quorum.

Guest: Jennifer Moore from Institutional Research & Assessment

### *Unfinished Business:*

Faculty satisfaction and graduation surveys

Shyam Heda asks the purpose for the faculty satisfaction survey Jennifer Moore stresses that the results are tied to accreditation, and the assessment process for each unit. Shyam Heda asks if it is only for record keeping, and Jennifer Moore cites concern with SACS and striving for improvement. There is the opportunity as well for faculty to express certain concerns, such as questioning the on-campus security. Results of the survey could improve university processes.

In response to the graduation survey, Leslie Stratyner cited difficulties with the questions about gender and ethnicity, and that the survey could be improved by adding more choices, especially with gender. Jennifer Moore acknowledged the frustration, and stressed that MUW is using federal and state guidelines as a model. Leslie Stratyner replied that we are not limited to state and federal guidelines, and the responses of a more inclusive survey could definitely help the university understand and serve the student population. Jennifer Moore requested any faculty that have concerns about the surveys to email her. Laura Ball asked if the survey is used to populate reports, and questioned what the survey is used for. Jennifer Moore responded that the results of the survey are communicated to various entities, such as the President and PIE council. The results are used as well in assessment, for SACS requirements, and for accreditation reports. Shyam Heda asked if the students have the option to skip questions, and Jennifer Moore stressed that any questions on the survey can be skipped. Melissa Smith questioned the level of response, and Jennifer Moore cited a response rate of 80%. Holly Krogh stressed that the demographic questions should be left until the end of the survey, partly to avoid negative responses to them affecting results, and also stressed the need for more options for "gender". Jennifer Moore said there is not a lot of guidance from the state and federal level.

Vote on minutes from November meeting: Melissa Smith motions to pass and Ian Childers seconds. The motion passes unanimously.

Holly Krogh spoke of Fund A and Fund B, and told the senators to ask their colleagues to request money from both funds, then discussed the IHL and changes to the tenure and post-

tenure review documents. One of the guidelines requires that administrators (e.g., a chair, dean, or provost) must write a memo if tenure is unsupported. Holly Krogh also met with the president, and said there had been no report from the administrative and PIE councils. Shyam Heda asked about charging stations on campus, and Holly Krogh answered that this might come up at the next Administrative Council, whose next meeting was February. The changes in tenure and post-tenure review continue to be discussed by the University Faculty Senates Association of Mississippi. This group wants to strengthen their connection with IHL. There is a retreat in Jackson upcoming.

*New Business:*

Holly Krogh brought up the question of faculty senate eligibility. Faculty need to be elected as senators, and according to records, some senators have served beyond the maximum of two consecutive 3-year terms. Two senators have been asked to step down who have served longer than the constitution allows. She stressed very firmly that this request was not an assessment of the worthiness of the senators, but out of an adherence to the constitution. These senators are not eligible to serve and we are out of line with our current bylaws. Leslie Stratyner moved to approve the motion that the senators should rotate off, and Laura Ball seconds. All present approve.

Holly Krogh then discussed the impact of the October freeze. EDHS was the worst hit, with flooding and a burst pipe. Currently the building is unsuitable and classes cannot be taught there. A couple of dorms as well had some flooding. Robinson and Brislin are on campus drying things out.

Shyam Heda brought up the bathroom situation in the gym, noting that all the faucets in the men's bathroom are severely rusted. Holly Krogh suggests contacting Jody Kennedy using the number shared in the November meeting. Then Shyam Heda asked if anyone on faculty senate was also on the parking committee. He has two tickets he feels are undeserved. One of his tickets cites a violation on the ticket but parking officials have told him that the ticket was for something else, so it is very confusing. Other senators noted parking issues. Lestonio Yarbrough is on that committee and will look into it. Holly Krogh also suggested that the police chief be asked to visit faculty senate, which she will arrange.

Susan Hurley then asked about the Fund A limit of \$350. All of her colleagues in the music department agree that more funds should be available to them as many of them go to several conferences a year. Could more money be available for a second or third conference? Holly said that the constitution makes \$350 the upper limit, and says the constitution must be changed to allow another upper limit, but also that could start looking to revise the constitution and she will put the issue in a forthcoming agenda. Holly Krogh reminded the senators that any activity that supports teaching could also draw from Fund B. Leslie Stratyner cited the needed increase for funding overall, and Laura Ball said that we need to encourage faculty members to apply, and that an applicant ideally should be presenting or on the program in some way. Holly Krogh

will approach the Council of Chairs to see if this issue has come up for them, as chairs control money as well.

Shyam Heda informed the senate that the W's faculty senate webpage is still out of date, and Holly Krogh reassured that the picture of the previous president will be taken down soon.

1:26: Faculty senate meeting closed.