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## 2015-02-06 Faculty Senate Minutes

Created by Unknown User (pdh513), last modified by Gordon, Grayson E on Mar 17, 2015

**Missouri State University-West Plains**

**Faculty Senate Minutes  
February 6, 2015**

**Phillip Howerton, Secretary**

In attendance: Craig Albin, Ed Birdyshaw, Michelle Branton, Thora Broyles, Sharon Bynum, Judy Carr, Cleo Fawn Cockrum, Melinda Denton, Joyce Dewitt, Alexandra Graham, James Hart, Phillip Howerton, Joyce Jennings-Pineda, Michelle Kwon, Debra Mayers, Renee Moore, Connie Morgan, Barbara Nyden, Gary Phillips, Alex Pinnon, Frank Anthony (Tony) Priest II, Cathy Proffitt-Boys, Linda Risner, Joseph Rugutt, Karen Ryburn, Brenda Smith, Cindy A. Smith, Jill Stephens, Rajiv Thakur, Chulapol Thanomsing, Jay Towell, David John Thomas White, Connie Yates, Emily Yeager, Illegible One, Illegible Two.

I. Call to order at 9:00 by Debra Mayers

II. Debra encouraged all faculty members be actively involved in improving our university and announced a change in the order of the agenda.

III. Additions and Approval of Agenda.

**Motion to approve agenda by Gary Phillips. Second by Jerry Trick. Motion carried.**

IV. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

**Motion to accept minutes by Barbara Nyden. Second by Gary Phillips. Motion carried.**

V. Debra announced that Jill Stephens will be serving as Staff Senate attendee.

VI. Faculty Handbook Modifications, Barbara Nyden

Barbara reported that Chancellor Bennett has returned the revised handbook to her and has requested a summary of the major changes.

VII. Assessment Committee, Gary Phillips

Gary noted that the Assessment Committee will soon begin its review of the nursing program. He added that as the Assessment Committee performs this first review, they will be revising and clarifying the review process. He discussed with several faculty members that this process will require faculty to more exactly define such terms as *certificate, degree, pathway, and program*.

VIII. Curriculum Committee, Joyce Jennings-Pineda

Joyce reminded faculty of the deadlines for submitting course proposals for the fall catalog. Joyce also introduced Jill Stephens from IT who has been given the task of refurbishing all course prerequisites in Banner. Jill explained the difficulty of translating prerequisites into Banner language and, more importantly, the need for faculty members to provide prerequisite statements that are accurate, exact, and clear.

IX. Faculty Evaluation Committee, Phil Howerton

Phil reminded faculty that he had emailed copies of the current and the revised versions of the Classroom Observation Form for their perusal, and he urged faculty to study these documents so that the revised form can be voted on during the next meeting of Faculty Senate. Phil also reported that the committee has a solid draft of an Advisor Evaluation form.

## X. Handbook Committee, Barbara Nyden

Barbara noted again that Chancellor Bennett has returned the revised handbook to her and has requested a summary of the major changes.

## XI. Public Affairs Committee, Gary Phillips

Gary noted that members of the committee will be attending a conference at the Center for Teaching and Service Learning in Springfield on February 12.

## XII. IAC Committee, Joyce Pineda

Joyce reported that the committee is hoping to create two sub-committees in order to promote more transparency in the budgeting process.

## XIII. President's task Force on Globalization, Rajiv Thakur

Rajiv explained that the intended general outcome of an increased focus on globalization is to create a flavor of globalization in all that the university does. He added that this task force is part of a visioning process in which the university will either become a leader or a follower and that we must articulate our goals, mission, and vision to avoid becoming a mere follower. He stressed that he believes that this committee is performing vital work and that he intends to be physically present at all meetings of this committee in Springfield.

## XIV. Dean's Update

Dean Lancaster reminded faculty that he would be discussing several concerns, such as Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), catalog policy changes, and long-range planning, with them during his Dean's Hour from 11:00-12:00.

## XV. Title III Update, Michelle Branton

Michelle reminded faculty that the current Title III grant expires on September 30, 2015. She noted that the developmental education department has no budget and that four positions within the department, Director of Developmental Education, Instructional Designer, Student Support Specialist, and Software Specialist, are to be internalized. She added that three other positions, Title III Administrative Assistant, Web Programmer, and Assistant Coordinator of Institutional Research, are scheduled to end after the expiration of the grant and that funding will end or be reduced for several services, such as tutoring, the STAR Program, and professional development opportunities for faculty and staff. Michelle also noted that the lack of data is seriously hindering the writing of the next Title III grant and that the Learning Centering T210 is not being utilized as fully as it can be.

## XVI. Common Reader, Ed Birdyshaw

Ed reported that the four finalists for the Common Reader Program are *The Kite Runner; Animal, Vegetable, Miracle; What is the What?* and *Oryx and Crake*. He added that *The Kite Runner* will be the common reader for 2015-16 and that *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* is the selection for 2016-17.

## XVII. Chancellor's Report, Debra Mayers

Dr. Bennett was representing MSU-WP in Jefferson City, so Debra Mayers delivered his report. Governor Nixon has released \$600,000 for OT and Allied Health for the MSU system. The students who were allegedly involved with a recent robbery will be dealt with according to university policy. Fifty-four Civil War letters have been donated to the university and are being transcribed and digitized by an honors student.

## XVIII. University Programs, Emily Gibson

Emily invited faculty to submit proposals for Kids' College and reminded faculty of the upcoming Public Affairs Conference.

## XIX. Development Office, Joe Kammerer and Eryn Walters

Joe and Eryn invited faculty members to donate items to and to attend the Annual Auction. Joe gave several examples of how the funds from the auction have been used around campus and reiterated the deadlines for making donations.

## XX. Announcements, Debra Mayers

Debra reminded faculty members of several activities and dates to remember. She noted that several faculty members will be meeting with representatives of West Plains High School to discuss skills students need to succeed in college,

that faculty members should be certain to enter needed information into the Maps Works Early Intervention survey, and that all faculty members should schedule an appointment to have their photograph taken for the faculty profile pages. She also reminded faculty of the Public Affairs Conference and the Annual Auction.

#### XXI. Closing Remarks

Ed Birdyshaw, in response to the earlier discussion of collection of institutional data, observed that a disconnect often develops between individuals collecting data and others who later interpret or apply that data. Kip Rugutt suggested that ways might be found to shorten faculty senate meetings and to place more focus upon business that requires the attention of a gathered body of faculty.

#### XXII. Adjournment, 10:59

**Adjournment was achieved in an ambulatory manner without the need of legislative action.**

No labels