

Senate Issues Committee

Minutes for

January 27, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 4:15 Senate Issues Chair Kimberlee Sharp; met in room 306 of Camden Carroll Library.

Members present: Lesia Lennex, Rodney Stanley, Ray Bailey, Becky Katz, Manuel Probst, Jason Applegate, Ann Rathbun, and Barbara Lyons.

Chair Kim Sharp updated the group on the Administration's "Are We Making Progress" survey, discussed the Administration's plan to increase transparency by having a web page available to all faculty and staff regarding the work of the President's Leadership Council. This web page will include meeting documents and a place for employees to submit questions, concerns, and comments. Kim Sharp introduced the Administration's proposed new UAR on electronic communication. The Committee discussed the language used in the document and the "proposed adoption date" because the UAR currently says "April 2010" (so there is confusion as to whether it is in effect now or not). Kim Sharp assigned Lesia Lennex' sub – committee to further review the proposed UAR.

Sub – Committee Reports

Faculty 180:

Ray Bailey provided this report. His sub – group met last semester with Scott Wymer, Charlie Patrick and LK Williams. The purpose for these meetings were to discuss ways to:

- To improve interfacing with other university programs (like datatel and blackboard);
- To make the system more user – friendly for faculty;
- And, to make the system more closely aligned with Pac 2 and Pac 27.

Ray also explained that the system has capability of replacing the hard copy tenure and promotion portfolios. Ray will email the Chair of the Senate Issues Committee a list of "next steps" and delegated to be performed by his group.

People First / Faculty Morale:

Kim Sharp provided this report. This sub-group's last meeting was in early November '10 and it was decided at that time that a simple survey be written and distributed to all faculty to ascertain their perceptions of their work experiences here at MSU. Becky Katz will be taking the lead on

writing the survey. We also discussed having members of the sub-committee distribute the survey to faculty in each department and that an incentive of some sort will be offered.

Next, the possibility of an Ombudsman was discussed. Kim Sharp is taking the lead to write a draft proposal for this position in order to be reviewed at our next meeting on February 10th.

Finally, Becky Katz suggested that a Senator (specifically, the Senate Chair) serve as the Senate Liaison on the President's Cabinet.

People First / Faculty Morale sub – committee indicated that they would like to have their tasks implemented before Spring Break and a full report given to Senate by the end of April 2011.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 10th, at 4:10 in 306 Camden Carroll Library.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:30 pm.