

## **Briefing for Faculty Senate Meeting of March 15, 2012**

### **Chair's Welcome and Report:**

Chair-Elect Doug Chatham resided over the session in the absence of Chair Kimberlee Sharp. Chair-Elect Chatham informed the senate that the Executive Council met with Drew Henderson of Information Technology regarding IT's plan to schedule its routine maintenance from 6-8 am on the first Friday of each month. Basic upgrades and routine maintenance will be done at this time. IT will work around faculty members who have special technology requirements during the maintenance period. Contact IT if that is the situation you are in.

The President's Leadership Council discussed the budget and the HB 260 compromise. The Cabinet has conducted a preliminary budget analysis for 2012-13 based on assumptions of 3-5% tuition increases, 6.4% state appropriation reduction, and no enrollment growth. With a 5% tuition increase, a \$2.1 million shortfall is projected. Many avenues are being looked at to generate revenue and reduce expenditures while preserving the core mission of instruction, research, and service. House Bill 260, the bill that would have made the University of Pikeville a state institution, was replaced with a grant program to help students in certain counties complete their baccalaureates.

Chair-Elect Chatham reported that Chair Sharp, with the support of the Executive Council, is donating \$100 of the Faculty Senate budget to the MSU Cares Community Outreach Fund, which has been set up to "provide financial support to our official relief efforts coordinated through the Center for Regional Engagement and/or support employees who have been impacted by the disaster" of March 2nd. The Executive Council urges and challenges other bodies and individuals to make similar contributions.

### **Report from Faculty Regent Ron Morrison:**

The Board of Regents approved naming the Space Science building as Smith-Booth Hall. Signage depicting "Home of the Ronald G. Eaglin Space Science Center" also will be affixed to the building. The official unveiling of the signage for Smith-Booth Hall will be held during Homecoming in October when we culminate our 125th Anniversary Celebration.

The Board of Regents approved the granting of tenure and promotion to 12 faculty members who are assistant professors to the associate professor rank. The Board of Regents approved the granting of sabbatical leaves to six faculty members. (The names for both groups are listed at the end of this report.)

In Personnel Actions, the BOR approved a \$20,000 annual salary raise for a MSU senior administrator to adjust the salary to meet peer equity. Regent Morrison expressed serious concerns about this because the faculty did not receive any adjustments in salary equity. He indicated that at least half of Morehead State faculty is below market averages.

In other BOR action, the University will exchange one acre of land at the Route 32 north location next to central receiving and surplus property storage for the property owned by the American Legion Post adjacent to the Kentucky Center for Traditional Music site. The one acre of land is surplus to the University's needs.

Spring student enrollment numbers were released and MSU had 9,409 students, which was an 85% retention rate from the Fall Semester number of 10,971. The percent of returning freshmen students was only listed at 72%. MSU is working hard to increase the retention rate and is encouraging faculty to work with students in the retention effort.

### **Evaluation Committee:**

Senator Lee Nabb, chair of the senate's Evaluation Committee, reminded senators to provide their feedback on the evaluation instrument that was proposed to replace the IDEA form.

### **Faculty Welfare and Concerns Committee:**

Senator Gilbert Remillard, representing the Faculty Welfare and Concerns Committee, continued the second reading of PAc 27 (Tenure). The main focus included the approval of amendments that were submitted to update and improve the policy. The senate voted to reinstate the University Tenure Committee as a required level of review for all tenure candidates in the proposed changes, even with the proposed addition of the college-level review. Much discussion and debate assisted in the processing of these changes. The senate session ended before debate was completed on this policy. PAc 27 will be on the agenda for approval in the next senate session.

It is likely that the Faculty Senate will meet the last Thursday of March, the 29<sup>th</sup>, to continue the debate and discussion on PAC 27. The Executive Council will inform you of this action, if approved. The next routinely scheduled senate session will be held on April 5th, at 4:10 p.m., in the Riggle Room of ADUC.

Senate Communications Officer  
Royal Berglee

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The Board of Regents approved the granting of tenure and promotion to 12 faculty members who are assistant professors to the associate professor rank with the issuance of their contracts for the 2012-2013 year.

- Mr. Paul Denayer, assistant professor of theatre
- Dr. Thomas Pannuti, assistant professor of space science
- Dr. Gina Blunt, assistant professor of health, wellness & human performance
- Dr. Wilson Gonzalez-Espada, assistant professor of physics & science education
- Dr. Christine Perry, assistant professor of mathematics
- Dr. Sherif Rashad, assistant professor of computer science
- Dr. J. T. Blackledge, assistant professor of psychology
- Ms. Amy Brown, assistant professor of nursing
- Ms. Teresa Ferguson James, assistant professor of nursing
- Ms. Vanessa Sammons, assistant professor of nursing
- Dr. Elizabeth McLaren, assistant professor of education
- Dr. April Miller, professor of education

The Board of Regents approved the granting of sabbatical leaves to the following faculty:

- Mr. George Eklund, associate professor of English - Spring 2013
- Mr. Jeffrey Hill, associate professor of mass communications - Fall 2012
- Dr. Allen Risk, professor of biology - Spring 2013
- Dr. Eric Swank, associate professor social work - Spring 2013
- Dr. Scott Davison, professor of philosophy - Spring 2013
- Dr. John Secor, associate professor of romance languages - Spring 2013

The Board of Regents approved the granting of tenure and the rank of Professor of Animal Science to Dr. Michael Henson, Associate Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School.