

**Faculty Senate Executive Council  
Minutes for 12-4-12 with President and Provost**

**Members present:** Doug Chatham, Ann Rathbun, Royal Berglee, Robert Royar, Lesia Lennex, Cyndi Gibbs, Beverly McCormick and Janet Skidmore, secretary

The EC met with the President and Provost over breakfast on December 4, 2012 in the Heritage Room at 7:30 a.m.

The Provost began by explaining the organization of her office with regarding to Jill Ratliff, Clarenda Phillips, Erin Wright, Lisa Shemwell, and Gerald DeMoss. There was discussion about the "Are We Making Progress" Survey Report. The President has the report but has not had time to review it. The report should be ready to present after the first of the year.

In discussing the University Technology Plan, the Provost indicated that faculty can begin to think about proposals for ways to make the Technology Plan work, such as with "learning spaces". Some of the faculty indicated that their departments have already begun to brainstorm those types of ideas and proposals.

The President presented a report of MSU Employee Benefits to the BOR at the last meeting. The purpose of this was to inform the Board members of MSU's benefits and to be prepared if the state moves in a direction of changing the way it funds state employee benefits.

Focus groups will be held after the first of the year to talk about the Faculty Salary Plan and hopefully by February or March the administration will be able to determine if there will be money for raises for the 2013-14 year.

The President indicated that monies from the state for 2013-14 will remain the same as they were this year. He also indicated that there is still talk in Frankfort about "performance funding". He stated that everyone at MSU must continue to work on retaining and graduating students which impacts "performance funding" if it is implemented.

The President stated that the most important thing in enhancing revenue is retaining students. He asked the EC to help with ideas of ways to keep our students. Advising should also be a main topic on everyone's minds. The Provost asked what tools and/or training do faculty need to help students with retention and advising.

The President talked about the vision for the future with regard to changing means of providing student learning.

The meeting ended about 9:10.