Call to Order: 3:45 p.m.


Senators Absent Are Underlined Above and an * Denotes an Excused Absence

Approval of Faculty Senate Minutes

Motion: To approve November 30, 2017 minutes.

Vote: Approved

Announcements:

- Announcement of “university-wide travel ban” resulted in a correction by Dr. Ralston who explained there is no “travel ban” and the procedures have not changed. Dr. Morgan asked faculty to be conservative about how they travel but reiterated there is no “travel ban.” International travel will be approved by the Provost and President and that has not changed.
- Programs are undergoing a “health check” to assess progress
- Program assessment revisions are due by January 31
- Reminder to complete inventory survey for MSU’s Diversity Plan
- Please fill out the IR survey evaluation for Associate Deans (Check your clutter box.)
- Attendance reporting for financial aid and retention due January 25th
- Chris Howes is the new CIO and Assistant VP for IT
- Provost search is under way
- Harry Floyd will reschedule his visit to Senate to discuss the travel procedures

Strategic Planning:

- Dr. Morgan briefly explained the purpose of the plan and that forums for Staff Congress, Faculty Senate and open forums were conducted for input from all areas moving forward. Timeline for the plan is to conclude all forums by end of January and present to BOR in February.

Q&A:

✓ Is the plan that is posted the final with no changes?
President asked for feedback in different forums and the feedback that was received will be considered.
✓ Where do the regional campus fit into the footprint of campus?
Regional leadership would oversee to make sure the regions meet the needs of the performance based funding model.
✓ Is diversity inclusive enough?
Goal 4 Strategic 3 Scholarships for out of state and international students will be offered.
✓ Is MSU using a practice that may not be appropriate for MSU?
The committee looked at USA News today and Chronicles of Higher Education to mention a few to set the high impact practice to be utilized by MSU.

✓ With struggles in the current time along with budget issues, what measures do we need to hit on right now?

President Morgan hopes to work through the issues within our current budget restraints. Some goals have already been implemented.

**Comments:**

MSU needs to emphasize student success with Academics being the cornerstone along with a stronger physical positioning of the institution.

MSU needs to invest in faculty and staff who will be working towards the same goals.

The University needs to work on transfer courses being equivalent. Faculty need to be more informed regarding transfer courses and have more input on the course content for the success of the student once they transfer.

**Faculty Senate Committee Reports:**

Academic Issues: No report
Evaluation Committee: No report
Faculty Welfare and Concerns: Next meeting Senate to reconsider changes to PAc-2.
Governance: The committee will be meeting with President Morgan and will report to Senate.
Issues Committee: No report.

**Meeting Adjourned** 5:35 p.m.
**Minutes Taken By:** Barbara Willoughby, Faculty Senate Secretary
**Next Regular Senate Meeting:** February 1, 2018