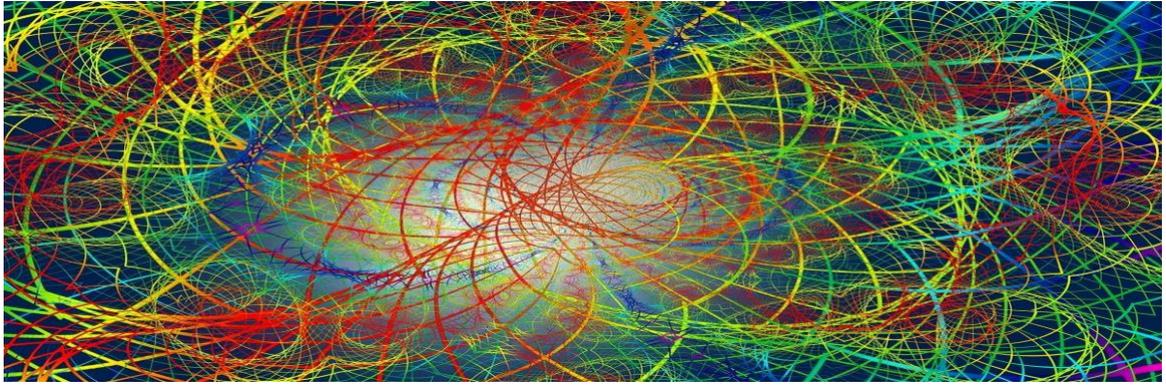


## Communication Report November 19, 2020



“I hope to God that we are not Brooks but are Andy Dufresne. So, as we are all in the sewer, if anyone wants to help me, hopefully we are gonna get busy living but right now, we are dying.” Regent Adams

**Faculty Senate** commenced at 3:45pm, with approval of November 5 minutes approved as presented

### **Announcements**

- All lectures, exams, labs, etc., have to go online after Friday November 20 (President’s email Nov. 16)
- Grades need to be posted through “Self-Service” by December 0223:59/11:59PM (see Provost’s email November 17)
- Date for the Spring 2021 Faculty Senate meetings have been posted on Webpage: <https://www.moreheadstate.edu/Leadership/Faculty-Senate/Faculty-Senate-Meeting-Schedule>
- Commencement for Fall 2020 semester will be November 21, at 10:00 for the Caudill College and Smith College, and at 13:00/1PM for the Volgenau College and the College of Science
- Commencement for the Spring semester will be held on December 05 at 10:00 for all colleges.
- Housing will close all dorms on November 24 at 19:00/7PM.
- Winter II and regular Winter terms star Dec. 03 and 14, respectively. Winter term II has the option to teach Jan 04-08, 2021 in person, e.g. for labs.
- Convocation for the Spring semester 2021 will be on January 05 at 15:00/3PM virtually
- January 11-15 week to communicate with students about the courses
- Start of the Spring Semester: January 19, 2021
- As mentioned by the President during his live streaming on November 09, the delivery form of a lecture is up to the faculty.

### **President’s Report-**

- Dr. Morgan expressed appreciation for faculty in cooperating with students for a successful semester
- Stated that he would be reaching out to President Grupe and SC Chair Savard-Hogge mid-December 2020 to plan for Spring semester 2021

### Questions:

Regent Adams: Requested an updated on naming the candidates and/or finalist for the newly created VP of branded marketing.

Morgan: We have the person and believes mid-late January that he/she will be identified to campus.

President Grupe: Requested an update on new CARES Act funding and reimbursement from previous state retraction of 8%.

Morgan: In the previous week, information provided to MSU that 2.13% of funds will be returned to MSU budget as restricted within stimulus guidelines. The remainder of the 8% will be available to MSU as

unrestricted funds. He anticipated we would make tuition, housing projections, and would have auxiliary statistics soon.

Senator Schack: “Did we suggest to students to get COVID-19 tested before they went home?”

Morgan: “An email was sent to students with that nugget in there somewhere.”

\*An email was sent Nov 16 to students. The *Guidance for a Healthy Departure from Campus* section cites

- *As you prepare to depart campus, limit your exposure to others for the last few days of being on campus or in town.*
- *If you are returning home to be around family or friends, consider getting tested for Covid-19 three-five days before you leave campus. Free tests can be obtained at the St. Claire HealthCare drive-thru testing station adjacent to campus.*
- *Consider getting a flu shot now or during the break.*

### **Provost’s Report-**

- Echoed appreciation for faculty during Fall 2020
- Winter II session will begin December 3 and Winter term December 14
- Students will begin arriving to campus the week of January 11 for Spring semester
- Reported that Registrar noted 56-58% of classes offered for Spring semester were face-to-face classes; 31% online
- Commencement has moved to fully virtual for November 21 and December 5. Registrar is managing details about videos for the virtual commencements. Eight videos are due to drop on December 5. Deans are reading the names of graduates for each college. Student speakers will have their usual time allotment for speeches.

### Questions:

Senator Finch: Suggested having a finals week instead of giving finals in last day of class as happened Fall 2020.

Provost: The plan in [Spring calendar](#) is to have a week of finals with predetermined dates/times corresponding to classes.

Senator Tuerk: Could we extend the required Fac180 deadline to November 25<sup>th</sup>?

Provost: Agreed to deadline extension for posting Fall 2020 information and updating Fac180.

Senator Lennex: Asked that anyone interested in applying for promotion to full Professor with a digital portfolio to contact Provost for support.

Provost: Agreed that faculty seeking support for an online portfolio contact him for more details to access the Blackboard Promotion site. Dr Morgan also added that he encouraged Associate Professors to seek promotion to full Professor because we have a “sizeable amount that should move up.”

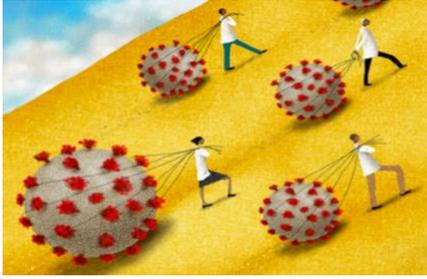
President Grupe: Asked about the status of several Resolutions sent to Provost from Faculty Senate. Resolutions have been on Provost’s desk at least two weeks OR MORE. Grupe also asked about status of Gray Associates report.

Provost: Confirmed that Resolutions were on his desk and that he had “no comment.” In commenting on the Gray Associate report, Provost stated that narratives had been received upline and that the final report would be available for President, and specific faculty as needed, prior to the report due date at end of December.

\*No information was provided to distribute to faculty about programs, recommendations, or direction of the report.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Executive Council-** FCTL Survey on Faculty Teaching Experience During COVID-19, presented from committee- Approved by FS; Survey delivered Nov 20-Dec 4 through FS to all full-time faculty.



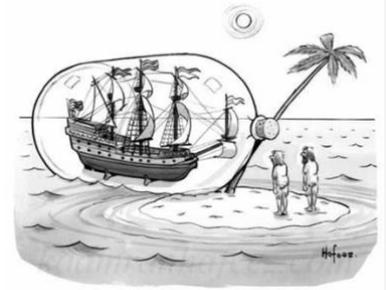
#### **Academic Issues-**

- Resolution on Teaching Modalities 1<sup>st</sup> Reading (Senator Chatham moved to suspend rules and go directly to 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Motion seconded by Senator Kiffmeyer.) Motion carried. In discussion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, Senator Lennex proposed a friendly amendment to line 12. Line 12 would now read, “Whereas the faculty appreciate not having any predetermined quota for online and/or hybrid teaching.” No agreement from committee was sought by Senator Schack before another friendly amendment was

discussed and inserted to document. Senator Tuerk suggested Lines 21-23 be revised to read, “... until the prevalence of COVID-19 is mitigated through the availability of a vaccine or the disappearance of the virus.” President Grupe asked Senator Schack if she had received committee approval for the friendly amendments. Schack said, “Yeah can you chat me or send me an email?” Schack began to discuss dislike of the proposed friendly amendment in Line 12 claiming that she had never heard of an actual quota for course delivery modality. In stating that faculty desire autonomy in course delivery, Senator Grise discussed that Line 12 could be restated in such a way that ‘faculty do not want to be lobbied, or bullied, into teaching face-to-face.’ Lennex stated that Grise’s wording would be a politic solution and that she would retract her FA in favor of Grise supplying appropriate phrasing to accurately express “don’t lobby (*read* bully) us” to teach face-to-face. Much discussion from Senator Schack followed and a motion to move the Resolution back to committee. President Grupe asked what Schack intended and she replied that she would like to move the Resolution and discussion of FA back to committee before returning it to Senate floor.

- President Grupe requested action from Faculty Senate in form of a motion to remove Resolution in its 2<sup>nd</sup> reading to committee for discussion at its next regular meeting January 28, 2021, then a return to Faculty Senate February 4, 2021. Senator Hassan moved to remove from discussion and remand to committee, Senator Jenab seconded. Motion carried. A request was made to send any FA to Senator Schack by December 3.
- Senator Blackledge offered general comments on the Resolution stating that, “I’m concerned that if we pass something like this, we present an overly broad stamp of approval for the measures that the President put in place for the pandemic and that concerns me for a couple big reasons. One is if you go back to CDC pandemic guidelines all the way back in July, they mention the importance of room ventilation. This was something that was never mentioned in official university policy in dealing with the pandemic- that some rooms are poorly ventilated, that some rooms have the capacity for very high-quality air filters that can actually filter out (audio garbled), and that concerned me because that invoked a lack of transparency. It was important information that probably a lot of faculty, staff, students, weren’t aware of and I thought it was the responsibility of the administration to pass on important information like that. The second concern that I have is that the President stopped reporting the number of positive COVID-19 tests relatively early in the semester. I think that’s important information again in service of transparency and the numbers that were reported were never correct.” While professing her appreciation to Senator Blackledge, Senator Schack asked Parliamentarian Chatham clarification regarding debate. Parliamentarian felt it was debate. \*Point of clarification—the Resolution to remand to committee ended debate. As it was neither tabled nor sent back to a first reading, if and when the resolution comes forward again, it will be in a second reading.

- Resolution on Faculty Performance 1<sup>st</sup> Reading (Senator Lennex moved to suspend rules and go directly to 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading. Motion seconded by Senator Sharp. Motion rejected. Senator Schack was clear that Provost and Deans desired an evaluation/ merit/ point system to review faculty performance even though UAR 137.03 Resolution to suspend merit review was concurred by Dr. Morgan. Provost apparently offered that individual departments could ease burden of yearly performance review but that it was a departmental decision with no communication from Provost. Discussion among Senators was that preferred annual evaluation is a Fac180 produced CV or other CV for the year with Chair being able to review documentation in the database as needed.



"Well, that's incredibly frustrating."

**Evaluation-** No report

**Faculty Welfare and Concerns-**

- Resolution on Student Evaluations 2nd Reading- Motion to approve carried.

**Governance-** No report

**Staff Congress:** No Report

**\*\*Motion to Extend Meeting (5:31pm) carried!**

**Faculty Regent:** Next Board of Regents meeting is December 3. A plan for Fall sports will be discussed at the meeting. In reviewing the discussion about reasonable annual performance documentation, Regent Adams addressed the debt reduction that has occurred at MSU since Dr Morgan's arrival. The Regent concisely stated "our university vision is a flatline of debt reduction. What has not been addressed is the correct number of full-time faculty at the university. We have a zeroing out of the institution because we have no vision moving us toward growth. We also have an element where we continue to rely on unrestricted funds. We are holding steady because of what the state is giving us. And yet, what have we disinvested in? Research and Creative Productions. But what are we doing now, even though we know people have a lot do? Well we're gonna make sure everyone



fills out their PBSI, we're gonna make sure that we've got a new HIP, we're gonna make sure we've got all this- that- whatever, we need to stop spinning all of the plates. We are all tired, we all have too much to do, and frankly we cannot do it all effectively. I do not know what else to do, God Bless Dirk and Patricia and Julia and Kouroush for being on Senate and for having younger faculty be there. But what are we doing to hold on to our young faculty? What are we doing to hold on to any faculty? . . . We as an institution have said we cannot afford to pay for 1/6 of our instruction. . . The only priority I see from the BOR level

is debt reduction which means we are all moving to a flat line of death as I told the Executive Council this week from full Shawshank Redemption mode. I hope to God that we are not Brooks but are Andy Dufresne. So, as we are all in the sewer, if anyone wants to help me, hopefully we are gonna get busy living but right now, we are dying."

**General Education Report:** Senator not present for reporting.

**Staff Congress Report:** Chair Savard Hogge reported that the next Staff Congress meeting is December 7 and the next ad hoc Supervisor meeting is December 1.

**SGA:** Report presented from President Grupe- As for the SGA report, SGA is continuing to encourage students to finish strong. We have to-go snack bags available outside of the SGA office (ADUC 222) as well as in the library. SGA is also handing out pick me up mugs to be handed out to students who seem down or

overwhelmed from finals. We are also continuing with our Student of the Week nominations until the end of this week. SGA is excited to hit the ground running at the beginning of next semester as we already have a number of large projects in the works.

**Adjournment:** 5:50pm