

**2020-2021 Morehead State University Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 4, 2021 – 3:45 pm**  
**WebEx meeting**

Call to order 3:45 pm

Senators: Annie Adams, Lauren Bates, J.T. Blackledge, Robert Boram, Doug Chatham, Pamela Colyer, Vivian Cyrus, Anthony Dotson, Joe Dunman, Heba Elgazzar, Julia Finch, Mark Graves, William Grise, Dirk Grupe, Timothy Hare, Patricia Harrelson, Ahmad Hassan, Jeffrey Hill, Alison Hruby, Amber Hughes, Kouroush Jenab, Jeannie Justice, Tom Kiffmeyer, Euijin Kim, Tom Kmetz, Gary LaFleur, Lesia Lennex, Jen O’Keefe, David Oyen, Roma Prindle, Sherif Rashad, Allen Risk, Edna Schack, Kim Sharp, Sherry Stultz, SC Chair Shana Savard-Hogge, Provost Gregory Russell, Bryce Ward.

Senators absent are underlined above and an \* denotes an excused absence

Guests: N/A

**Call to Order**

**Approval of Faculty Senate Minutes from February 18, 2021:**

Motion to approve with the following changes:

Remove Steve Chen from senator list due to his resignation from FS

Lola Aagaard Boram – do not list as guest. Add her name in parenthesis after Jeannie Justice in senator list. She was in attendance to represent Senator Justice.

Vote: Approved minutes as corrected

**Announcements:** (all announcements posted on the FS blackboard shell)

President Elect of FS, Senator Edna Schack has announced her retirement effective April 30, 2021. President Grupe thanked Senator Schack for her service. Senator Schack’s retirement will require the election of a new president for 2021/22.

Communications Report – Communications reports and approved minutes will be sent to all faculty that President Grupe has on blackboard. This is due to several senators not sending this information out to their constituents.

Family First Corona Virus Response Act – This act states that you are eligible for 2 weeks of paid leave if you are diagnosed with or need to quarantine for the Corona virus. This act expired December 30, 2020, but MSU will continue to offer this to their employees until April 30, 2021.

Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter Schedules – The schedules have been approved for the next 3 years. Start/end dates are as follows:

- Spring semester will start the day after Martin Luther King day. Spring break will be mid-May. The end of the spring semester will be the second week of May.
- Summer session 1 will begin the second week of June. Summer session 2 will begin the second week of July. Summer session 2 and full summer will end the first week of August.

- Fall semester will begin the third week of August and will end the first week of December.
- Winter session will begin the third week of December and end on Tuesday of the second week in January.

Vaccinations – MSU and St. Claire Medical Center have organized Moderna vaccines to be given out to MSU employees. The date for the first vaccine will be March 10 and the second vaccine will be given on April 7. You will need to sign up for these vaccinations.

SOAR – Dates for SOAR are April 15 and 16, 2021. Virtual SOAR will be April 23, 2021.

Mid-Term Grades – Due by midnight, March 15, 2021.

FYS Committee – President Grupe has met with the provost. The provost would like to remove consultants as members of the committee. Not all standing committee descriptions have anything about consultants in them, but committees have the right to call in a consultant as needed. Governance will create a document that explains how committees are functioning, what they can do and that they have the ability to call in a consultant as needed. The EC was in favor of this and accepted the proposal as written. President Grupe will forward this to the provost as approved. This will also be included on the faculty interest survey that goes out this spring.

Resolution on Teaching Modalities – The provost has recommended that faculty need to work in conjunction with their chair or dean when choosing their teaching modality. President Grupe said the response he had received from faculty regarding this change had been positive. The EC approved this with the additional change and President Grupe will forward the accepted proposal to the provost.

Resolution on Student Evaluations – Faculty Welfare and Concerns committee is working on PAc 35 now. FEPs will need to be re-written. President Grupe has asked FWC to work with SGA to come up with questions for the student survey. President Grupe said the surveys are valuable for feedback but should not be used for evaluations because there is bias. SGA and Senator Harrelson will meet next week to discuss this.

Ad Hoc Committees – There are several ad hoc committees that FS has not been made aware of. President Grupe has asked the provost to address that FS needs to be informed of the formation of these committees. The governance committee can make suggestions on who could serve on these committees because there needs to be faculty with the best expertise for the committee task to get done.

Faculty 180 and CSS – Senator Lennex has made a summary of the FYS and CSS committees in the communication report. Senator Stultz is on the CSS committee and gave an update.

- The CSS will be held near the end of April and be fully virtual
- The date for the CSS was planned around the SACSCOC visit
- Presenters will have the option of two modes: synchronous or asynchronous
- The same system for abstract submission and judging will be used

Question - Senator Adams asked when the committee was told the specific date of the SACSCOC visit? Senator Stultz said the date as not confirmed but they scheduled around the time that the visit could happen. Senator Rashad suggested that Senator Adams direct her questions to Dean Davison, the lead of the work group.

Committees for Assessment – President Grupe has asked the provost for more information on these committees. President Grupe was appalled by the use of the SS acronym used on the website. He said this meant Schutzstaffel (Nazi protection squads) and was not acceptable. Senator Finch will work with Marketing regarding abbreviations and consistency throughout all committee descriptions.

Senator Graves addressed the assessment committees.

Assessment Oversight Committee – This committee looks at the timelines or adjustments that may be made to the program assessment process.

Academic Affairs Assessment Oversight Subcommittee – This subcommittee reviews the assessment plans that are submitted. They provide the commentary that all faculty get back if they are leaders of the programs and/or the contact person within the schools, departments or colleges if there are questions to be answered explaining what particular quotations mean.

Question - Senator Lennex asked where descriptions for these sub/ad hoc committees could be found. President Grupe said he has the descriptions and they are on the website under resources.

Question - Senator Lennex asked Senator Graves how long he had been on these committees and sub/ad hoc committees. Senator Graves said he had been asked to serve for three or four years. Senator Lennex said if a sub/ad hoc committee had been running for several years it would need to be a standing committee.

Senator Lennex would like to ask every senator if they or someone in their department is on an ad hoc committee of any kind, please let her know the name of that committee and how many years they have been on it. She is trying to determine how many ad hoc committees there are and what they are doing. FS is trying to work hand in hand with the administration to populate these committees with persons who are best qualified. This also gives credit to people who are serving on the committees.

### **Presidents Report**

No report

### **Provost Report**

No report. Dirk will meet with the provost in the morning and will fill him in on what was discussed at today's meeting.

### **Staff Congress Report – SC Chair Savard Hogge**

FS President Grupe and SC Chair Savard-Hogge will be guest speakers at the MSU AAUP. The presentation will be on sustaining and reaffirming shared governance at MSU. SC was developed with the goal to promote cooperation among administration, faculty, students and staff and to review university policies, documents and decisions that will affect staff. The pandemic has given unique problems with shared governance. Chair Savard-Hogge said she would like to see a continuation of transparency in administration. They will continue to work with the EC of FS to discuss supervisor evaluations and the development of a Teaching Bill of Rights. Any input faculty have on these items would be greatly appreciated.

### **SGA Report – Bryce Ward**

Mr. Ward asked FS to share the word that there are about 50 transcript vouchers in the SGA office.

SGA is starting a new partnership with the Fuzzy Duck called Get Moving Mondays. A \$2 discount will be given on all food and drink items until noon on Mondays. This will run until April 26.

Information on the Executive Board Elections can be found on SGA social media.

SGA will meet with Senator Finch next week on student evaluations.

Question – Senator Adams wanted to know if the new Senior Assistant VP of Strategic Communications and Branding has reached out to SGA to work on social media to get a student presence on the website. Mr. Ward said SGA has been in contact with COMA in regards to updating the SGA page.

### **President-Elect**

Since Senator Schack will retire in April, a new president elect will need to be voted on from the remaining 3 EC members, Julia Finch, Kouroush Jenab and Patricia Harrelson. Each candidate gave a brief introduction of themselves to the committee. Senator Finch and Senator Jenab stated that they did not have the capacity to take on the roll of president elect right now. Senator Harrelson was voted in as FS president-elect and will begin become the Faculty Senate President in August.

### **Faculty Welfare and Concerns – Senator Harrelson**

The committee is currently working on PAc 17, revising the form to make it a fillable one.

An ad hoc committee will be formed to look at workload calculations.

The committee is continuing to work on PAc 35 regarding student evaluations.

### **Governance Committee – Senator Finch**

FYS committee will be ready to move forward for approval. Upon approval, this will be added to the Faculty Interest Survey.

The committee is working on documentation that covers and governs the formation of committees, what they should do and the duration of the committees. They are looking at how other institutions handle this. This documentation could be on the website or in the faculty handbook so that it was readily available. Governance will take the lead on this and will eventually include Faculty Welfare and Concerns. The committee would also like to include Dave Flora, who is the representative on SC that works on the population of SC committees.

Faculty Interest Survey – The survey will be out within the next 2 weeks.

TEC/PEC – The document was sent back to the by-laws committee.

### **Academic Issues – Senator Schack**

The committee has invited Max Ammons, Assistant Vice President/Dean of Students, to their next meeting to discuss academic dishonesty. Mr. Ammons has drafted a UAR and would like to work with AI on cleaning up the document and discuss what the faculty perspective is on academic dishonesty.

### **Evaluations Committee – Senator Jenab**

The committee continued discussion on the dean's evaluation. An additional question was added, at the request of the provost, regarding the performance of the deans during the pandemic.

The committee will begin work on the chair evaluation.

### **Regent Report – Senator Adams**

The next BOR meeting will be March 26.

Senator Adams received an email from the BOR secretary on what faculty numbers are. According to Senator Lennex, the numbers do not measure up with the numbers of active tenured and tenure track faculty she has. Senator Lennex followed up with HR, Board reports, IR and personnel rosters last fall and gave FS correct numbers. Due to retirements, resignations, changing status and new hires, these numbers have changed. Senator Lennex has contacted IR because the numbers are significantly different and nothing has been done to adjust them.

Clarification – Senator Adams announced in the last meeting that MSU would receive 8.1 million dollars in additional stimulus funds. It was announced later in the news that MSU would receive 11.1 million dollars. Senator Adams had several inquiries as to why the numbers were different. Clarification is 3 million dollars will be for students and 8.1 million will go to the institution.

Senator Adams said we are running into significant problems procuring facts. She feels if there is no shared communication, we are working harder, not smarter.

### **GE Committee – Senator Schack**

The committee looked at placement scores for General Education courses and approved. Honors courses and 1 MSU Teach course was not included in the list of General Education for 2020/21. The committee voted to include Honors courses in the gen ed list of courses that are possible for students to take for YouTeach 250, Prospects in Science and Mathematics.

Completed the verification review process for the SLOs.

General Education Assessment – The committee has not received all the assessment data yet. They may have a full report at their next meeting.

FYS – The committee received minutes from the meetings. They will look at the courses again in May. Some changes have been made at the request of SGA for this year. They also discussed changing the FYS committee structure.

### **New Business**

No new business.

### **Old Business**

No old business.

Next scheduled meeting – March 18, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm