2024-2025 Morehead State University Faculty Senate Minutes Thursday, September 12, 2024 – 3:45 pm Special Meeting WebEx

Senators: Annie Adams, Kevin Adkins, Elizabeth Ash, Nettie Brock, Thomas Carver, Michele Cudd, Ben Fitzpatrick, Kurt Gibbs, Flint Harrelson, Lucas Hoots, Brandon Hughes, Michael Kessinger, Tom Kmetz, Lesia Lennex, Kathryn Lewis, Scott Meisel, Douglas Mock, Ben Morris, Geralda Nelson, Roma Prindle, Tagatha Ray, Diedra Robinson, Bo Shi, Amy Staton, Matthew Sutton, Dieter Ullrich, Lisa Wallace

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

Faculty Regent: Joyce Stubbs

Guests: Provost Parikh, Brady Lawson, Timothy Hare, Sue Tallichet, Sandra Riegle,

Call to Order

President Lennex called the meeting to order.

Announcements (all announcements posted on the FS Bb shell)

FS meeting minutes from 9/5/24 were presented for review but will not be up for approval until the next regular FS meeting.

Communication report from the 9/5/24 FS meeting has been posted on Bb for review.

Special Topic

The purpose for today's meeting is communications. Several constituents requested a timeline and additional information regarding what has been done by Dr. Morgan, Dr. Parikh, administration and FS over the past year.

President Lennex – Dr. Parikh was hired last year as a 1-year provost from a list of candidates. He was the only candidate brought to campus. After his hiring, President Morgan announced that Dr. Parikh's employment would be extended to 2 years. Senator Adams presented the job call that is being used in the search for a new provost.

Faculty Welfare and Concerns and Academic Issues

Faculty Welfare and Concerns and Academic Issues presented FS with information regarding the timeline requested at the last FS meeting. The timeline document is available on the Bb site, listed as Communication, Explanatory Timeline. This document serves as an overview of things that have happened during the previous academic year (2023) by various dates and topics. Hyperlinks are listed within the timeline.

President Lennex requested FS read through the documents presented carefully. Senators were then asked if there were any corrections, changes or concerns about what was being presented and how should the information be presented to faculty?

Questions/Discussion

Correction needs to be made on page 2 of timeline, Provost Incentive Action on Faculty Status was sent in 2023.

Correction to section on Instructor Policy Changes, sent in November 2023.

Senators were concerned if the timeline was read first, could it bias the survey. President Lennex said the purpose of the timeline is to inform constituents of things that have happened and can be proven. At what point does FS see that a statement of facts is biased?

Senators noted that FS does not normally send surveys of this nature. Going forward, could FS consider sending surveys regarding administration performance on a more regular basis? President Lennex stated FS does have the authority to evaluate administration in various methodologies and modalities.

Several senators questioned if concerns of FS and/or faculty be brought up at the BOR meeting? President Lennex stated FS is not allowed to speak at a BOR meeting, any communication would have to be done by the faculty regent.

FS members wanted to know if Provost Parikh would get to address the issues presented in the timeline? President Lennex said the provost had been asked to address issues in the timeline on numerous occasions and in FS meetings. The provost was also offered a chance to address any or all the issues at today's FS meeting (no response).

Dr. Riegle wanted to clarify that she did not negotiate with Academic Affairs regarding her request to teach online (ADA referral) or her resignation/retirement (issue listed on timeline). President Lennex questioned if Dr. Riegle sent her request to Dr. Parikh or Human Resources. Dr. Riegle stated she followed University protocol and sent her request to HR. It was Dr. Riegle's understanding that after HR received her request, they then worked with Academic Affairs.

Provost Parikh is planning to re-write the FS Constitution and take the revisions to the BOR meeting in October, despite being told FS does not seek changes. The re-write of the constitution would mean the dissolution of FS from its purpose of shared governance.

Motion - For FS to send the email, timeline and survey, revised and corrected, to faculty.

Motion – approved.

Motion – Statement from FWC to be used as the body of the email.

Motion - approved

Motion – The timeline and survey links will be in the body of the email.

Motion – approved.

Email, timeline and survey will be sent to faculty on Monday, September 16, 2024.

Deadline to submit the survey will be at the end of business, September 23, 2024.

Email, timeline and survey will not be distributed through Institutional Research.

Results will be discussed at the FS open forum on October 17, in ADUC. All faculty, staff and students are invited and encouraged to attend.

Other Business

N/A

New Business

N/A

Meeting adjourned

FS Open Forum – October 17, ADUC Theatre