

Academic Affairs Liaison Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2011, 3:00 pm

Cope Conference Room

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Members Present – J. Brickey, N. Callender, R. Clark, J. Dooley, L. Dubek, R. Heinrich, A. Lutz,

Members Absent – K. Butler, P. Fischer, Z. Khan, K. Nofsinger, G. Zlotky

Members Excused –

Additional Attendees – B. Bartel, J. Omachonu

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Action Items

1. Courses becoming ADA compliant: The Disabilities Committee is discussing having all course materials become ADA compliant. The concern is that this would create an undue burden on faculty. Dr. Bartel expressed his concern. Dr. Bartel suggested that this issue should be discussed this summer. Warner stated that Dr. Harris feels that the director of Disabilities Services should research this topic further. Warner stated that this could be a legal issue. SACS involvement was questioned. Warner will report back to the Senate that the issue was discussed and that it will further be discussed in the summer. Dr. Bartel will alert Dr. Sells of the issue. The issue will be placed on the Senate retreat agenda.
2. Koofers: This company purchased MTSU Review and is posting reviews, notes, videos, flash cards, etc. The company is using MTSU faculty resources. Dr. Bartel is going to contact Ms. Zimmerman in order to research the issue. Alfred stated that the company is using his name to make money. Alfred has emailed the company 3 times, but they have not responded.
3. Warner, along with a group of Senators, would like to meet with Dr. Bartel during the month of May regarding the Promotion and Tenure Policy. This issue should be added to the agenda. The desired outcome of the meeting is a list of recommendations to present to the Senate at the retreat.
4. Dr. Bartel stated that the President is committed to providing the highest pay raise for faculty. The full revenue picture will not be complete until the tuition increase is set. The President would like to give a higher raise that what the Governor has stated. He also would like to give a bonus ($1,000 per faculty member was suggested). $4 million dollars has been set aside to hire faculty in the fall.
5. Dr. Bartel shared the issue that there is a lack of color and/or gender in the faculty and administration. Dr. Bartel stated that the issue may not be recruitment but retention. He stated that two dean positions are open which provide an opportunity to change the ratios. Dr. Bartel suggested converting minority FTTs to Tenure Track positions. He suggested that this issue should be added to the retreat. Alfred shared that minority candidates have balked at salary and teaching load. Dr. Bartel suggested other avenues to induce these candidates to choose MTSU such as release time. Alfred asked if money was available to bring International candidates. Dr. Omachonu suggested bringing them ask visiting scholars and interview them concurrently. Alfred suggested developing mentoring programs. Compensation to mentor was suggested. Dr. Bartel is trying to determine how MTSU compares to other TBR schools. Dr. Bartel shared the recently approved tuition discounting program for international students. We currently have 400 international students. The President would like to go to 1,000. Warner stated that this issue should be discussed at the next President’s Liaison Committee Meeting. The committee responsibilities of minority candidates were discussed. Warner discussed the need for an outcome from the retreat regarding this issue.
6. Dr. Bartel stated that this will be an issue for Hispanic faculty in the future.
7. Dr. Bartel stated some of the results of the budget hearings. He stated that the President realizes that FTTs will need to be converted to Tenure Track. The question of terminal degrees for FTTs was questioned in regard to their avenues for obtaining these degrees. Warner shared that Alfred had taken the issue of FTTs taking on administrative responsibilities to the TBR Faculty Subcouncil.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Callender

2010-2011 Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Edited: