

Faculty Senate Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2012, 3:00 pm

Faculty Senate Chambers

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Members Present – S. Boyd, N. Callender, L. Clark, C. Cooper, L. Craig-Unkefer, W. Cribb, L. Dubek, T. Farwell, G. Freeman, A. Lutz, K. Mathis, K. Nofsinger

Members Absent – M. Arndt, C. Beauchamp, L. Burriss,

Members Excused – J. Brickey, G. Zlotky

Additional Attendees –

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Action Items

1. Retention: Volunteers for the Retention Innovation Award Committee are being solicited. Meetings of the committee will be February 20th and 27th at 3:00PM. Guidelines for the committee will be established. Volunteers should contact Jenny Salls.
2. Custodial Services: Issues with custodial services should be brought to the Deans in light of the issue being brought to the President’s attention recently.
3. Required Advising: Advising is required for students with less than 30 hours. This begins this semester. Major and general advisors may have to be seen if prescribed courses are required. A suggestion was made to adjust this to apply for those students with less than 30 hours at MTSU.
4. Registration Holds: There is a proposal for registration holds to be placed on students accounts one they have completed 75 hours until they file an upper division form (UDF). The quality of advising was discussed. Kim shared that advisor training was being planned. A proposal for flowcharts for each major was suggested.
5. Academic Misconduct Policy: The TBR Faculty Subcouncil met and discussed and approved a proposal. It could take up to 2 years to be enacted. Attendance and punctuality was not incorporated in the proposal, but another existing policy on attendance covers a professor who incorporates attendance into their syllabus. Warner proposed that academic misconduct issues should be treated by the grade appeals process. Warner supplied a handout with his proposed changes to the policy. Warner feels that Judicial Affairs is shouldering an increased burden of academic cases.
6. Campus Appearance: Bring issues of the Campus’ appearance to the Deans.
7. State Budget: A handout with information on the science building was given. This handout states that the University will have to provide ~$18 million towards the project. The Governor’s proposal of a raise was also discussed with regard to the University’s responsibility to provide for a part of the raise.
8. Enrollment: Data was presented in a handout of enrollment from 2011 spring to 2012 spring.
9. University Standing Committees: Alfred shared that once a policy is updated, the old policy can no longer be accessed. He would like the changes to be presented in the original policy with insertions/deletion/mark throughs. Alfred questioned the President’s ability to abolish a committee. His current ability to either continue or not continue a committee was discussed. Alfred would like to know the purpose of the word “abolish”. The inclusion of a sentence stating that the Deans as opposed to the Faculty Senate will recommend Faculty to the Honors Committee was discussed. Alfred would like to know the purpose of this sentence.
10. Canak: Questions as to the autonomy of faculty was sent to the Steering Committee in the form of a handout. The movement of the University to Outcomes based evaluation was one issue included in the handout.
11. Instructor Absence Notification Policy: Scott has had several instructors bring to his attention the need for a better procedure for notifying students when a class cancellation is needed.
12. Summer Schedule: Warner suggested that the Senate request information on the summer schedule. Information should be solicited from faculty regarding the summer schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Callender

2011-2012 Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Edited: