

Faculty Senate Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2012, 3:00 pm

Faculty Senate Chambers

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Members Present – S. Boyd, J. Brickey, L. Burriss, N. Callender, L. Clark, L. Craig-Unkefer, L. Dubek, G. Freeman, T. Farwell, A. Lutz, K. Mathis, K. Nofsinger

Members Absent –

Members Excused – M. Arndt, C. Beauchamp, C. Cooper, W. Cribb, G. Zlotky

Additional Attendees –

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Old Business

1. Academic Misconduct Policy: Assurance was given by the President that MTSU policy is legitimate and will stand.
2. Required advisement of students with less than 30 hours: It was reported that faculty in certain departments who missed the advising training are being sought out and informed.
3. University Standing Committees: The Provost is investigating appointment to the Honors Committee. Kim shared that meeting minutes should be recorded for University Standing Committees. Meeting dates should be sent to the Senate.
4. Faculty assessment of Vice Presidents: The worth of pursuing this issue was discussed. The Provost previously shared that our institution is one of the few he has knowledge of that doesn’t provide a means for faculty to evaluate VPs. Alfred suggested requesting feedback from UoM on their experience with a VP evaluation system. Janice said that setting goals and reporting on their achievement opens lines of communication.
5. Instructor Absence Notification Policy: The Provost and IT Department are looking into strategies to address the issue of faculty notifying their classes of last minute absences.

New Business

1. Election Nominations: Elections will soon be held. The means by which to hold the elections was discussed. Alfred suggested a subgroup of the Steering Committee investigate potential presidential candidates.
2. Campus Non-Violence Committee: The committee would like to present before the Senate. Approval was given allowing the committee to present at the next Senate meeting.
3. 2012-2013 Enrollment Management Strategic Plan: Kim elicited feedback from the proposed plan. The Senate has received the plan and should send feedback to the Steering Committee. It was decided to invite Dr. Witherow and Dr. Boyles to discuss this plan at the next Senate meeting. Kim shared that the plan seems to deal very little with retention. The adequacy of the number of faculty on campus was discussed. The deadline for feedback is in mid April. It was suggested that when faculty provide feedback, they should supply a specific location within the document to which the feedback pertains. Scott shared that for a student with less than but close to 120 hours. The next semester would be funded in full by the lottery scholarship. Information on the type of students targeted by the enrollment plan is desired.
4. New Dean of Libraries: Alfred pointed out that several groups are already being invited to the next meeting. Larry shared that this individual should be given more time.
5. TUFS Spring Meeting: The meeting is scheduled for March 30th & 31st at UT Martin. The Provost’s office usually pays for travel to this meeting (important with the lack of Senate travel funds).
6. Credit hours: A file distributed via email concerning credit hours was discussed. Clarifications concerning this handout are desired.

Action Items

1. Kim will submit proposed verbiage to the Provost concerning the Academic Misconduct Policy to include the absentee policy.
2. Kim will pursue faculty evaluations of VPs.
3. All should consider potential candidates to nominate for 2012-2013 Senate positions.
4. Kim will invite Dr. Witherow and Dr. Boyles to the next Senate meeting to discuss the proposed 2012-2013 enrollment plan.
5. Kim will send the enrollment plan to Senators and elicit feedback.
6. Kim will ask Michael to attend the TUFS meeting in his stead.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Callender

2011-2012 Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Edited: