

Faculty Senate
05/04/2015

The MTSU Faculty Senate met in chambers at 4:30 p.m., May 4, 2015.

Members Present: Tom Black, Alan Boehm, Scott Boyd, Nita Brooks, Larry Burriss, William Canak, Hyrum Carroll, Alphonse Carter, Laura Cochrane, John Dougan, , Laura Dubek, Meredith Dye, Tricia Farwell, Michelle Finch, Paul Fischer, Michael Fleming, Sekou Franklin, Buddy Freeman, Tina Hall, Jeanne Harrington, Joseph Hawkins, Brian Hinote, Rhonda Hoffman, Tom Jurkanin, Robert Kalwinsky, Paul Kline, Alfred Lutz, Preston MacDougall, Mary Martin, Janet McCormick, Ann McCullough, Scott McDaniel, Joel Miller, John Pennington, Michael Principe, Deana Raffo, Jason Reineke, Lauren Rudd, H. Stephen Smith, Charlene True , Barbara Turnage, Martha Weller, Kristen West, Annette Williams,

Members Absent: Mamit Deme, Mark Doyle, Joey Gray, Clay Harris (excused), Steve Howard, Rob McDaniel, Willis Means (excused), Sherry Roberts, Zhifu Yang

Minutes from the April 2015 meeting were approved as read.

The budget report was approved

General operating	\$861.58
Travel	\$433.48
Foundation	\$441.16

President McPhee addressed the Senate on a number of topics:

* Salary increase:

- + 1.5% has been approved by the state legislature, but MTSU will have to fund half.
- + The increase will be across the board to faculty & staff.
- + No merit pay in the near future.

* Fall 2015 enrollment

- + Early numbers show retention levels are the best we have seen in five years.
- + Increase in applications from rural areas.
- + Transfer numbers up 10% from last year.

* Impact of New Advising Program

- + We are already seeing success based on the new program.
- + Advising saved students \$1.5 million.
- + All numbers are showing positive “return on investment.”

* Summer Enrollment

- + Summer has been a struggle for the last couple of years.
- + Trend has shown a decline that needs to be reversed.
- + 6% decline, but decline has been nation-wide.
- + MTSU has the largest summer school enrollment in the state.

* Workload

- + Has always been on the agenda
- + Reassigned time has increased over the past few years.
- + Cannot compare doctoral programs (departments) with undergraduate-only programs (departments).
- + Need to differentiate between research and teaching load.
- + Many of our peer institutions have larger endowments, which directly impacts teaching loads.

Mike Krause (Executive Director for Tennessee Promise)

- * Drive to 55 is the goal, and Tennessee Promise is only one part of the overall Drive to 55 program.
- * Tennessee ranks 8 from the bottom in higher education attainment by state
 - + Correlates with incarceration & health care.
 - + Only 6 counties in Tennessee are above the national average.
- * Tennessee had 72,865 high school freshmen in 2007 (2010 seniors)
 - + 10,545 did not graduate from high school.
 - + 22,334 entered workforce directly from high school, with an average income of \$9,030 average income.
 - + 40,235 enrolled in postsecondary programs.
- * Most higher education non-attendees are self-selecting out.
- * Part-time community college students generally don't graduate.
- * Full-time students are most likely to graduate.
- * Most impact of Tennessee Promise has been an increased in awareness of financial aid.
- * TN is #1 state in Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filings.
- * One issue with Tennessee Promise is that it seems to promise 2 years to graduation, but it often takes longer.

- * MTSU is leading the way
 - + with state veterans
 - + with Reconnect Complete
 - # 85,000 Tennesseans are more than half way to graduation, but not attending school.
 - # 25,000 have 120+ hours.
 - # Can these be coaxed back to school.
 - # 4,600 students from MTSU are half-way through, but not attending.
 - # Issue is not financial, but life/school balance.

Other Business

- * Incoming and outgoing Senators were recognized.
- * The Senate presented a gift to outgoing president Bill Canak in appreciation of his service.
- * A new steering committee was elected
 - College of Basic and Applied Sciences
 - Preston MacDougall
 - Mark Abolins
 - College of Behavioral and Health Sciences
 - Michelle Finch
 - Lauren Rudd
 - College of Business
 - Deanna Raffo
 - A member to be selected later
 - College of Education
 - Michelle Stevens
 - Tom Black
 - College of Liberal Arts
 - Ann McCollough
 - Christy Shamburger
 - College of Mass Communication
 - Bob Kalwinski
 - Alan Boehm
 - University College
 - Scott McDaniel

- * A resolution was presented from the Library:
 - + Responding to concerns expressed by the faculty of the Collection Development & Management Department of the Walker Library, the Faculty Senate recommends that all departments and colleges should be organized to follow established tenure and promotion guidelines.

The resolution was approved by a voice vote.

- * Student scheduling poll. Summary report to be prepared.
- * By state law, administrator evaluations are now confidential.
- * The Ad hoc Faculty Compensation report was distributed.
- * On-line courses: Rights of students/duties of faculty issues were resolved.
- * Book and Supply Bundling: University counsel Heidi Zimmerman says there is no policy violation.
- * President William Canak noted several Senate accomplishments and issues considered during the past year:
 - + MTSU did not report compensation data to AAUP
 - + Campus climate survey analysis not released yet
 - + Faculty Senate D2L site is up and running
 - + Faculty profiles are up and running on the MTSU home page
 - + Dean of the Month program was a success
 - + Improved communication with Dean Council & Chair Council
 - + TAF recommendations proposed by the Senate were approved
 - + Several reports were completed
 - # Pell Grant report
 - # Bylaws revision committee
 - # Family life/work report
 - # Student scheduling report
 - # Application/acceptances/enrollment report vis-à-vis other TBR schools

President-Elect Tricia Farwell

- * Budget hearings have been going well.
- * The new advising system seems to be working well
 - + Persistence data up
 - + Pre-registration numbers up

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.