

Middle Tennessee State University
Faculty Senate
March 10, 2008

Action Items:

New Faculty senate webpages are up and running.

Faculty Senate Pre-meeting information – Joe Bales

- Schedule Bulletin – historical information provided regarding schedule bulletin decisions
 - Factors influencing the decision
 - Everything costs money to an account
 - Maintaining accuracy
 - Speed of information
 - Online was the easiest solution to all three of these issues, as was convenience. Inaccuracy was a problem.
 - Tipping factor was the cost.
 - Catalog information –
 - \$93,000 to produce (not even cost of mailing) plus additional \$25,000 for design. Is this the most productive use of money?
 - Similar comments apply as for the schedule bulletin. We did a hardcopy and online version this year, with the online version under delay. Searchable catalog copy is a complete redesign. Budget will be probably be the deciding factor for a lot of items for the foreseeable future. Leadership in a green environment.
 - What is your comment? Could you advise on the resources that faculty need regularly?

Faculty Senate Meeting:

- 1) Roll Call
 - a) Members Present – F. Amey, M. Balachandran, D. Belcher, R. Blair, P. Bradley, C. Bratten, L. Burris, J. Caine, D. Campbell, F. Crawford, J. Davis, W. Dornan, M. Foster, G. Freeman, C. Frost, B. Haskew, C. Higgins, T. Johnston, N. Kelker, J. LeBlond, A. Lutz, J. Marcellus M. Martin, T. McBreen, R. McBride, N. McCormick, T. Perry, D. Penn, M. Principe, T. Ring, K. Smith, L. Warise, W. Warren, J. Wermert, A. Williams, J. Williams
 - b) Members Excused - M. Arndt, D. McSwain, A. Miller, K. Nofsinger
 - c) Members Absent – S. Cantrell, J. Carter, W. Cribb, S. Daughtery, J. Hausler, W. Ilesley, J. Maynor, J. Pennington, S. Seipel, G. Vernardakis
 - d) Other attendees - Joe Bales
- 2) Approval of February 2008 Minutes - Approved as presented and posted online
- 3) Treasurer's Report

- a) Operating Budget: To be provided at later date - \$2,878.90
 - b) Travel: To be provided at later date - \$856.00
 - c) Discretionary Account: \$546.72
- 4) President's report –
- a) New secretary position is established and hiring is on-going. Provost Office is handling reservation of JUB 100 for the present time.
 - b) There will probably not be funds to finish market equity this year. He intends to continue to pursue this as soon as the economy improves.
- 5) Discussion Items
- a) Presentation by Vic Montemayor on the new Student Evaluation of Teaching
 - i) The Pedagogy Task Force recommended this new instrument to provide most impact on quality teaching; emphasis is on improvement. Feedback would be online. Access to individual data is to be clearly defined.
 - ii) Effectiveness to be implemented in beginning Fall 2008. Last presented to the Senate on February 12, 2007. For more information, see:

The Pedagogy Task Force,
http://www.mtsu.edu/~vjm/Teaching/Task_Force/task_force.html

The Teaching Evaluation Pilot Study.
http://www.mtsu.edu/~vjm/Teaching/Task_Force/Pilot_Study/pilot_study.html

Pilot Study Final Report (December 13, 2006 - PDF)
http://www.mtsu.edu/~vjm/Teaching/Task_Force/Pilot_Study/PilotStudyFinalReport.pdf
 - iii) Provost is adamant that this survey will be delivered online evaluation. A committee has been formed to get reasonable return rate. At this time, online rate is around 10 – 15%. Individual student credibility has not been addressed with either online or paper version. Provost plans to benchmark faculty against external universities.
 - b) Summer meeting and Faculty Senate retreat -
 - i) Tentatively the Summer Meeting is set for July 14, 2008 – 4:30 pm – JUB 100
 - ii) Faculty Senate retreat - Wednesday August 20, 2008 - potential topics include: tenure/promotion, workloads, teaching evaluations
 - c) Compensation for part-time faculty - - UPDATE –
 - i) Data is posted on website. Our maximum is equal to the least that anyone else will pay to adjuncts. We are in no way comparable to the industry standard.
 - ii) Impact of any policy cannot be fully predicted due to instability in economy. Right now, \$50 per credit hour per faculty would mean \$125,000 in total budget impact.
- 6) New Business
- a) Motion on Faculty Evaluations - Tenure track faculty and faculty requesting consideration for promotion (academic year 2009-2010) should have the option of requesting the use of the old form for the last year of student evaluations prior to their consideration (academic year 2009-2010). The motion passed unanimously.

7) Adjournment