

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Meeting
October 28, 2003

Chairperson Brower called the meeting to order.

Senate members present: Melvin, Brower, Solko, A. Stierle, James, Todd, MacLaughlin. Absent: Leland, Mitman, J. Metesh.

Others present: Van Daveer.

The minutes of the October 14, 2003, were approved via e-mail and posted in the Faculty Senate Public Folder.

MacLaughlin gave an update on the student teaching evaluation committee. She said they've found a common workable time to meet on Mondays at 3:00 p.m. They are hoping to schedule the first meeting to get their charge and set timelines. It seems that implementation of any suggested changes could be possible beginning in Fall 2004.

MacLaughlin gave a grading system update. The publication has been received from AACRAO. Mitman has shared some AAUP information as well. The URL of some of AAUP's documentation on grading is <http://aaup.truman.edu/FS Plus-Minus Proposal Oct 00.pdf>.

The Library Strategic Planning Committee has submitted a proposal requesting funding to hire a consultant at a cost of \$35,000 to study the holdings, layout, and traffic patterns of the Library and make recommendations regarding remodeling. The Committee has also discussed ideas for increasing activity in the Library and has given some thought to putting in a coffee shop and, perhaps, a faculty lounge. Prior to implementation, it would be desirable to know how much usage those facilities would get.

Brower handed out a summary of the September BOR meeting. He noted that the Regents seem to be more interested in micro-management than past Boards. Regents are selected based upon a geographic and political balance in the composition of the Board and serve for a term of seven years.

The Regents, C.H.E., UM/MSU presidents, and a faculty-group representative met on October 23, 2003, to discuss needs of the various units and funding alternative. Regent Mercer suggests that the BOR determine the needs and increase tuition to make up for any lack of state funding, if other sources do not emerge.

Regarding faculty senate agenda announcements, one of the senate members noted that some items in the published agenda of (Faculty Senate) meetings are not necessarily clear. It was suggested that a one- or two-sentence description of agenda items be included in the agenda to help clarify any concerns about discussion items and to encourage interested faculty to participate in Faculty Senate meetings.

In an attempt to get through the backlog of deferred agenda items, tentative dates for discussing and acting upon items were set.

11/04/03 meeting	HPER Usage Policy
11/04/03 meeting	Class Attendance Policy for Campus-Sanctioned Events
11/18/03 meeting	Overload Compensation Policy get statistics from Personnel about frequency of covering others' classes; have someone in attendance who can relay information about how situations have been treated in the past
11/18/03 meeting	Dean's Council proposed changes to faculty handbook -- ONLY IF TIME PERMITS
11/25/03 meeting	special executive session for discussion of Chancellor's annual

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review by Pres. Dennison
workshop on faculty governance deferred until the Chancellor can
clarify purpose and format of workshop

Some discussion took place regarding discussing the transition of the nursing faculty at the upcoming General Faculty meeting. It was noted that this was being done to inform the faculty of what was being done. Any discussion during the faculty meeting will be at the wishes of those in attendance. Aronofsky, legal counsel for the UM, has been asked about the issue of tenure. He commented that the tenure is untouchable. The issue of rank, however, is an executive decision. The current plan is to bring in the faculty with a bachelor degree at the instructor level and the faculty with a master degree at the assistant professor level.

A request was made to the VCAA to place two items in the faculty senate portion of the October 30 instructional faculty meeting agenda about (1) the possibility of recalling elected committee representatives, and (2) disallowing further discussion of the nursing faculty transition. The senate chair objected on the grounds that only the senate has the right to determine its portion of the faculty meeting agenda, so the request should be denied. However, faculty are always free to include other agenda items outside the faculty senate's time or raise issues at the faculty meeting. Additional comments disclosed that the Senate Bylaws currently do not address recall. The Senate does not plan to pursue creating policy for recall.

Because of the Veterans' Day Holiday, the schedule for November meetings shifts a bit. The two meetings for November will be held on the 4th and the 18th.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise E. Solko
Secretary