

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2016

Members Present

Owolabi Tihamiyu - President
Statha Kline-Cherry - Secretary
Kenneth Bowman
William Kerns
Johndavid Kerr
Kenneth Noe

Members Absent

Joyce Eisel – Vice President
Jana Marcette

Visitors

Sabrina Brown
Loretta McDonald

I. Call to Order

The Faculty Senate meeting was called to order at 1:50pm

II. Approval of prior minutes

The motion for the approval of the September 16, 2016 Faculty Senate Minutes was made by Dr. Noe and seconded by Dr. Kerns..

III. The MO Fifteen to Finish and On-line Classes

Sabrina Brown, Director for Retention & International Programs and Loretta McDonald, Director of Admissions visited to share the HSSU's participation in the MO Fifteen to Finish Plan and to discuss on-line classes. The plan is a State-wide Initiative to graduate students in four years. HSSU and Truman are currently the only colleges with banded tuition, which makes the costs for taking additional classes each semester more affordable. Fifteen hours per semester is the new expectation – anything less requires them to opt-out. Dr. Tihamiyu shared his concerns regarding the difficulty many HSSU students experience with on-line courses. He recommended that there be a 2.5 GPA minimum requirement for enrolling in on-line courses. Dr. Kerns added that we need a systematic way of verifying that learning outcomes have been reached and wondered about looking at data from other institutions regarding on-line courses.

IV. Discussion with the Director for Retention– Sabrina Brown and Director of Admissions – Loretta McDonald

In addition to MO Fifteen to Finish, they shared that the Academic Intervention Team meets @ 8:30am every Wednesday. They discussed the *Early Alert System* and that we have moved to an *Intrusive Advising Model*. The *Summer Bridge Program* is being redesigned to limit admission to students who fall below a certain academic threshold. With the new team in place, many changes are underway including the possibility of a Study Abroad Program.

V. Accreditation for the College of Education (COE)

The College of Education CAEP Self-Study was submitted today. We will invite Dr. Vickers from the College of Education to attend the Faculty Senate meeting in February 2017 to discuss the upcoming CAEP accreditation on-site visit.

VI. Higher Learning Commission Visit

The team from the Higher Learning Commission visited October 31 – November 1, 2016. We should hear a response to our two proposed Masters programs in the spring.

VII. Faculty Senate Project – Library Database Update

The Faculty Senate Project for the Library is ongoing. A meeting is being planned with Ms. Noble regarding the extending the library hours on Sunday from 2pm – 7pm. Dr. McClure would like to attend this meeting.

VIII. Assessment of Student Learning Committee

Dr. Tihamiyu shared that Dr. Marcette is stepping down as the Assessment of Student Learning Committee Chair; Dr. Eisel has graciously agreed to Chair the committee.

IX. Review of Board Policy and our Bye-Laws – Updating our Website

The process of updating the Faculty Senate website has begun.

X. Any Matters Arising – MAFS Report

The Missouri Association of Faculty Senates (MAFS) held its 55th semiannual conference in Jefferson City, MO on Oct. 10-11, 2016. Dr. Johndavid Kerr was re-elected as president of this organization for 2016-2018 in April by MAFS' voting members. MAFS closely works with the Missouri Department of Higher Education (MDHE) and MAFS' liaisons that include the Council of Presidents in Higher Education (COPHE), American Assoc. of University Professors (AAUP), Missouri National Education Association (MNEA), and legislative faculty liaisons to the Missouri General Assembly. The conference featured a panel discussion with the new MDHE Commissioner Zora Mulligan and Sen. David Pearce, chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee and member of the Joint Commission of Higher Education to the General Assembly. Dr. Kerr has tasked MAFS to produce three deliverables by next February's conference. First, MAFS will jointly research and produce an infographic designed to show 10 metrics and a faculty ROI model for all stakeholders in the State of Missouri. Second, MAFS will be responsible for completing a three-year strategic plan that will be shared with the MDHE, Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE), and the chairs of the Senate and House higher education committees, as well as with all internal and external stakeholders in the state. Third, MAFS is working to coordinate with the MDHE a Higher Education Summit that will convene in February. The summit is designed to focus on higher education policy issues in Missouri, to create a forum in which faculty and policy makers may dialogue, and to create more visibility of faculty in the capitol.

XI. Adjournment

It was moved (Kerns) and seconded (Noe) that the Faculty Senate meeting be adjourned at 4:15pm.

ATTACHMENT ONE

From: Carr, Greg S.

Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2016 9:56:16 AM

To: Tiamiyu, Owolabi K.; Eisel, Joyce M.

Cc: Bowman, Kenneth; Kerr, Johndavid; Kline Cherry, Statha; Marcette, Jana; Podleski, Ann; Walls, Betty P.

Subject: Faculty Senate and Shared Governance

Dear Colleagues,

In the past year the Harris-Stowe NEA has been working diligently to improve working conditions for the faculty unit. We have met with the Administration for Labor Relations meetings, arranged meetings for the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service and engaged in Collective Bargaining for three months. Throughout this process the Association has kept the faculty unit apprised of developments, breakthroughs and misconceptions regarding the collective bargaining period. We have sent numerous emails regarding updates and arranged for a ratification meeting in July. However, in the past year, there have been a number of incidents that have occurred here on campus that we have not received proper notification or information. These incidents include:

- A number of faculty and staff members had some sort of identity theft issues regarding the IRS.
- The dismissal of the former Director of Public Safety and the issues surrounding it.
- The Human Resources Director being put on administrative leave after the dismissal of the Director of Public Safety.
- Reports of two Administrators involved in a criminal investigation involving a former Harris-Stowe student (This incident was covered in two local newspapers.)
- Numerous campus incidents that may have required a Clery Report submitted to the faculty and staff of the University were not disclosed to the faculty and staff (Most recently, one of these incidents was broadcast on a local news station and posted in a local newspaper.)
- The lengthy process in which the Board has deliberated over the Collective Bargaining Agreement. (The Collective Bargaining Agreement was apparently ratified in June, but a final copy has not been made available to the Harris-Stowe NEA to peruse it nor has the Harris-Stowe NEA President been granted the opportunity to sign off on it.)

The Faculty Senate should take an active role in maintaining shared governance. There was never an emergency meeting called by the Board or the Administration or an official statement from the Communications Department regarding any of these issues. Therefore, as a faculty member and the Harris-Stowe NEA President, I am sending a recommendation to the Faculty Senate to send a letter of concern to the Board and the Administration on this lack of transparency and shared governance. If you are representatives of this faculty, you will strongly consider this action and act upon it in an expedient manner.

Regards,

Gregory S. Carr

Harris-Stowe NEA President

