



HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

MINUTES, APRIL 11, 2014

2:00PM – 4:00PM

Meeting started at 2:00pm

ATTENDANCE LIST

SENATORS

Johndavid Kerr
Beverly Brennan
Mary Pier
Hattie Weaver
Reynaldo Anderson
Sudarsan Kant
Ken Bowman
Odesa Weatherford-Jacobs
Owolabi Tihamiyu

FACULTY

Barbara Baker
Tommie Adams
Rick Hocks
Brian Elsesser

ELECTION OF NEW HSSU FACULTY SENATE OFFICERS

President Elect - Odesa Weatherford-Jacobs
Vice President Elect - Owolabi Tihamiyu
Secretary – Vacant
MAFS Liaison – Ken Bowman

UPDATE ON PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH ACTIVITIES

The outgoing executives of the senate reported that they met with the final candidate for the post of HSSU President (Dr. Warmack). The candidate is very aware of the challenges and opportunities facing HSSU. In his discussion with them, Dr. Warmack explained that his emphasis as President will include Faculty Development and Performance Measurement for members of administration and faculty.

Dr. Kerr noted that many stakeholders in the University systems believe that the Universities are putting less emphasis on output and too much emphasis on input. He noted that the situation in our university needs to change in order to promote an environment for academic excellence. The current administration should stop making unilateral decisions and actions that affects the faculty very negatively and unfairly without consulting with the faculty. Also, some faculty members should refrain from speaking negatively about the HSSU administration.
A motion was made at the meeting that:

THE FACULTY SENATE DISAGREES AND REJECTS THE UNILATERAL DECISION BY THE HSSU ADMINISTRATION TO REMOVE THE OFFICE OF DEPARTMENTAL CHAIRS FROM ALL HSSU COLLEGES AND SCHOOL DEPARTMENTS.

This motion carried without any vote against it.

It was further noted at this meeting, that this unilateral verbal pronouncement, if implemented would reduce the annual remuneration of each faculty member involved by about \$2,000.00 and may discourage any of them from performing some critical services necessary for retention of faculty and students.

The senate decided to have a going-out celebration for Mary Pier, our retiring secretary; to be arranged by the senate.

UPDATE ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The senate finance committee stated that the low enrollment is a concern as it affects the financial health of the university.

Dr. Tiamiyu mentioned that he coordinated the Accounting Students Association (A\$A) members to serve as volunteers and provide free-tax preparation to members of our community from February 4 to April 10, 2014. He will submit detail report on this activity at next meeting.

UPDATE ON UNIVERSITY BUDGET COMMITTEE

It was noted that the University Budget Committee (UBC) has a faculty representative; however, he has not been directed by the administration to report to the senate. The out-going faculty senate President suggested that the new leadership of the senate should ensure that a senator is appointed to sit on the UBC in addition to the current faculty representative, and report back to the Senate as a member of Senate Finance Committee.

It was agreed that the senate should continue to work on streamlining the University Standing Committees. The deadline to submit Faculty Manual Draft is April 26, 2014.

It was noted that the outgoing leadership did well by bringing members of the Administration to senate meetings for information and dialogue. The new senate executives are implored to continue this practice. A motion was made that:

THE SENATE SHOULD APPLAUD THE SOUND LEADERSHIP EFFORTS PROVIDED BY THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT (DR. JOHNDavid KERR) TO THE SENATE FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS.

The motion passed without any objection.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05pm. Next meeting will be on May 2, 2014 at noon.