Members Present – Mark Abolins, Don Aliquo, Murat Arik, Martha Balachandran, Alan Boehm, Andy Brower, Larry Burriss, William Canak, Hyrum Carroll, Alphonse Carter, Laura Cochrane, Mamit Deme, John Dougan, Mark Doyle, Meredith Dye, Michelle Finch, Paul Fischer, Sekou Franklin, Buddy Freeman, Justin Gardner, Tina Hall, Joshua Harms, Jeannie Harrington, Joseph Hawkins, Robert Kalwinsky, Yang Kim, Paul Kline, Alfred Lutz, Mary Martin, Ann McCullough, Scott McDaniel, David Otts, Richard Pace, John Pennington, Michael Principe, Chris Quarto, Deana Raffo, Lauren Rudd, Kristi Shamburger, Barbara Turnage, Martha Weller, Kristen West

Members Absent – Tom Black, Preston MacDougall, Terry Quinn, Shane Smith, Michelle Stevens

Members Excused – Tricia Farwell, Joey Gray, Jason Reineke, Zhifu Yang

Additional Attendees – Dianna Rust, SACS and QEP.

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 p.m. by President-Elect Mary Martin. President Trish Farwell was attending a FOCUS meeting in Nashville.

Dianna Rust discussed MTEngage. SACS and QEP.

The MTSU SACS visit will be March 29-31, 2016, with the QEP evaluation scheduled for March 30.

An updated handout will be provided for the Faculty Senate web page.

Regular Business

Minutes for the December 2015 meeting were approved.

Budget Report: Foundation Account $461.16
Travel Account $637.25
General Operating $749.76
Standing committee report: A motion regarding standing committees will be ready for full Senate discussion at the March 2016 meeting.

Steering Committee report
* A motion was made by the Steering Committee to have the steering committee serve as the election committee. Passed by voice vote.
* Discussion of FOCUS (HB 2578)
  + President McPhee will meet with Steering committee & have two campus-wide “town halls”
  + President McPhee wants input/ideas/suggestions
  + A motion was made to form a Faculty Senate ad hoc committee to review and monitor the bill – Passed. Alfred Lutz will chair the committee.
* A motion was made to allow “A minus” grades. Passed by voice vote.

Updates
* It has been reported that students are selling class notes through a company named StudySoup. TBR sent StudySoup a Cease and Desist notice.
* Faculty Senate 50th anniversary activities are being planned. Details will be coming forthwith.
* Senate elections are scheduled for April 2016.
* The MTSU Foundation has solicited Senate input regarding updates to awards at Fall faculty meeting.
* Requests for membership on University standing committees needing members with special experience were distributed to the faculty.
* Regular standing committee request will be sent out at end of month.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry L. Burriss
2015/2016 Secretary