
Members Present – M. Arndt, N. Brooks, S. Boyd, L. Burris, N. Callender, L. Clark, C. Cooper, L. Craig-Unkefer, T. Farwell, A. Lutz, F. Miyakawa, D. Patterson, S. Roberts, B. Rushlow, C. True, A. Williams, D. Winborn

Members Absent –

Members Excused –

Additional Attendees –

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from June were approved.

Old Business

1. Veterans Affairs Committee Chair: The director of the Veterans Affairs Committee was discussed. The suggestion was made to include representatives from Judicial Affairs, ADA, and Student Affairs.

New Business

1. News: Michael shared that MTSU's enrollment is down significantly (4.6%). As a result, monies for new faculty have been recalled. A tuition freeze for incoming freshmen after completing 30 hours has been proposed as a means of recruitment and retention. Michael requested three additional faculty volunteers for a committee focused on this topic. Gay has collected data from other institutions regarding how faculty evaluate administrators. Michael is not currently pushing the issue with the Administration. Online training modules were discussed. Alfred shared that the fire marshal instructed him that faculty were not to use fire extinguishers. Faculty should evacuate. The ability to acknowledge having read the training material, instead of taking an exam, was desired for all online training modules.
2. Bonnie Allen: Bonnie would like to speak to the Senate regarding library policies.
3. National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) Presentation, Scott Carnicom: This document reveals that graduates are not as positive when looking back on their MTSU education (relative to the graduates of other institutions). Michael would like to invite Scott to the Senate.
4. TUFs Resolutions, Alfred Lutz: The TBR Faculty Sub Council proposed a document on academic freedom which was voted down. A rewrite of the policy

is to be voted on by the Senate. More time for faculty to research and provide input on administrative hires is proposed.

5. Salary Compression: Counteroffers were made to several faculty; however, salary compression resulted.
6. Faculty Consulting: The policy on this issue was discussed. The difference between outside work and consulting was discussed, and a desire for clarification was desired.
7. Leslie discussed the process for admission to the Special Education graduate program. Decisions to deny students admission were overturned without explanation by the graduate school. The students were international. Leslie would like to know how often this happens and if this only happens to international students.
8. AAUP: Alfred shared a case involving the Dean of the Library and a faculty member within the Library. The Dean has refused to engage with the Provost and Alfred. The Dean placed a written warning in the faculty member's file; however, this is only an option for classified staff and students. The Dean added her own verbiage to the faculty member's supervisor's evaluation of the faculty member without consulting the supervisor. Accusations were made concerning the faculty which can be shown to be untrue. Alfred would like the Senate to send his write up to the President. The faculty member is only asking that the written warning be removed from the file.

Action Items

1. Three volunteers were requested to participate on a committee tasked with discussing tuition freezes for students.
2. Michael will request clarification regarding paid consultation.
3. Michael will seek answers from Michael Allen regarding how often admission decisions are overturned by the Graduate School and what the criteria are. A report from the graduate school may be requested.
4. Michael will speak to the Administration regarding enforcement of the smoking policy.
5. Michael will follow up on the recent large monetary donation to the University and how it will be used.
6. Michael will investigate the charge of the Standards and Enrollment Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Nate Callender
2012-2013 Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Edited: