University Committee on Faculty Affairs

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 14, 2008


Ex Officio: Terry Curry, David Byelich.

Others: Donna Zischke.

Call to Order: In the absence of Professor Moriarty, Dr. Ross B. Emmett called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Dr. Merrill made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Dr. Zelevinsky. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: Dr. Aben made a motion to approve the September 30 Minutes seconded by Dr. Zelevinsky. The motion carried.

Announcements:

- Dr. Emmett reported on attending the October 7 Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) meeting. They are putting together a campus-wide committee to consider the implications of the changes to Welcome Week in a manner that would allow a variety of constituencies to have input on the assessment of the change that has been put forward by the Provost’s Office for next year. This committee will include a member from UCFA as well as members from many other campus-wide committees.
- Another topic for ECAC was to determine what governance needs to do regarding the issues presented to the standing committees to as far as the university energy costs and the movement to change the university’s policies. He found out there is a campus-wide task force set up for that purpose, so they discussed the governance involvement with the task force.
- Professor Curry reported that the Faculty Organizational Development Office did a workshop on academic governance – once again, the lack of connection and communication between faculty representatives and their constituencies was brought up. It was suggested that it might be ideal to prepare a video to share with all new faculty as well as current faculty. This would be to remind everyone to stay connected with their representatives and representatives to keep communicating with their constituencies.
- David Byelich gave a brief report on the financial and economic affairs of MSU as well as the state.

Subcommittee Reports:

Budget: Ross B. Emmett, Chairperson Dr. Emmett said there would be a review and discussion of the Draft 2009-10 Appropriation Request.
**Personnel Policy**: Jason Merrill, Chairperson  
Dr. Merrill reported that the subcommittee had completed their review of the Web Accessibility Policy with Kristine Zayko, and they had just started the Criminal Background Check with Ms. Zayko.

**Old Business**: Dr. Aben made a motion to endorse the Draft 2009-10 Appropriation Request seconded by Dr. Merrill. David Byelich discussed the background and history of the document. This document also includes the Capital Outlay Request for MSU. The motion carried.

**New Business**: No new business was noted.

**Other Questions**: Dr. Westphal inquired on the status of SIRS forms, Form D specifically, but technically the SIRS forms are also being questioned. Professor Curry responded to the question with a historical perspective and why the forms continue being used presently. Revising the forms and their use appears to be under consideration.

David Byelich spoke briefly about IRS Regulation 403B regarding retirement options, flexibility, and responsibility.

Dr. Davidson made a motion to adjourn to subcommittees seconded by Dr. Merrill. The motion carried.

**Adjournment**: UCFA adjourned to subcommittees at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elva Boyles  
Recording Secretary