
Absent: Barnhizer, Bertrand, Dale, Ferris, Floyd, Geist, Giesy, Gossain, Hoekstra, Kravchenko, Lynch, Mansfield, Newhouse, Patino, Rautman, Selanders, Smith, Stockman, Stringer, Walton, Whipple, Wurst, Yansa  23

The meeting began at 3:15 p.m. with a full quorum present.

Approval of Agenda:
The agenda was approved as distributed.

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of October 18, 2005 were approved as distributed.

President’s Remarks:
President Simon deferred her remarks until the Academic Council meeting which follows today’s Faculty Council meeting.

Provost’s Remarks:
Provost Wilcox deferred his remarks until the Academic Council meeting which follows this meeting.

Executive Committee Chairperson’s Remarks:
Professor Sticklen briefly reported on the meeting of the CIC Faculty Leadership Conference hosted by MSU November 4 and 5, 2005. The meeting was successful and a number of activities were planned to increase the visibility of the group, including the potential linkage with the CIC Provost group. The meeting will be summarized and on the web site.

Status of Faculty Voice Task Force Groups:
Professor Sticklen reported on the status of the Task Force groups for Faculty Voice. Currently, Task Force Groups 2, 3 and 4 are established and the governance web site will provide the membership list for each group. The Governance Office is in the process of scheduling the
initial meetings for the Task Force Groups to begin work. The slates have been developed for Task Force Groups 1 and 5 for voting by members. When the vote is completed, the elected members will be notified and the initial meetings will be scheduled.

Other Business:
Professor Moch noted that electronic voting doesn’t allow campaigning for people and he shared some attributes for Professor Minor in the College of Education. Professor Sticklen reminded members that there would not be an Academic Senate meeting this semester due to the fact that there were no action items to bring to the Senate. Professor Sticklen noted an Academic Senate meeting is anticipated Spring Semester.

Professor Sticklen was a member of a MSU delegation attending the Federal Reserve meeting November, 2005, entitled “Higher Education at the Crossroads”. MSU was the only institution to have representatives from governance in attendance. There is a report on the governance web site. The President commented that the dominant research universities are the assets if this region is going to move from the current economic doldrums and will need to band together to lead the change. Talking about these major issues affecting higher education in the context of public policy is important for the faculty to do. The projection is that until we begin to wrestle with some of these issues, the funding component will probably not be there and there is a push then towards increasing tuition. President Simon suggested this could be a useful conversation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Wright
Secretary for Academic Governance

Tapes of complete meetings of the Faculty Council are available for review in the office of the Secretary for Academic Governance, 308 Olds Hall, 355-2337.