

Approved* Minutes of the
SU Faculty Senate Meeting
9 March 2004
HH 119

Senators present:, Curtin, Hopson, Hutchinson, Long, Mathews, Marshall, McCallops, McDermott, Muller, Mullins, Parker, Pereboom, Rotondo, Shannon, Rieck

Senators absent: Diriker, McKenzie, O'Loughlin,

1. David Rieck called the Senate to order at 3:33. A quorum was present.
2. David had several brief announcements:
 - A. The Senate will meet again next week.
 - B. We will be receiving a proposal from the Academic Policies committee dealing with academic dishonesty and related issues.
 - C. The administration approved the sabbatical funding proposal which the Senate approved.
 - D. The High Merit proposal was not accepted by the administration. He will circulate the Provost's comments, and we will discuss the high-merit issue at next week's meeting.
 - E. A document concerning the roles and responsibilities of department chairs will be circulated to the Senate for discussion.
3. Dave Buchanan had several announcements.
 - A. The President has been off-campus quite a bit lately, and lots of her matters have landed on his desk.
 - B. On Monday he attended a meeting of the USM Presidents and Chancellor (the Chancellor's Council) at which the "No more state money, no additional students" principal from SU was echoed by the entire system. In other words the USM will not accept more students until state funding resources all for us to expand.
 - C. There are several bills in the legislature which would cap tuition increases. Most are accompanied by "guarantees" that state funding will also increase, offsetting the need for tuition increases. He pointed out that, for example, a 5% tuition increase generates a lot more money than does a 5% increase in state appropriation. (Some legislators apparently do not understand the simple fact that equal percentages of unequal amounts are not themselves equal.)
 - D. Although it is too early to begin spending money, the legislature is still considering a 1.6% COLA for state employees (which would be funded) as well as a 2.5% merit increase (which might be mandated but which would not be funded).
4. The draft minutes of the 24 February meeting were approved as distributed.
5. Jerry Miller presented information about the Faculty Initiatives Committee of the USM

Diversity Network. In spite of its informal organization, Jerry has continued to represent the SU faculty on this committee, and he noted they were sponsoring the second Diversity Conference on Saturday. On behalf of the Senate, Dave Rieck thanked Jerry for his efforts on our behalf and urged him to continue to represent us.

6. Ron Dotterer presented an update on the Middle States Self-Study Process. He noted that the Working Groups would meet in the fall and write preliminary reports in the spring. The official Middle States visit will occur in the fall of 2006. There are five working groups. Information can be found at this site:
<http://www.salisbury.edu/iara/Accreditation/AccreditationHome.htm>
7. The Senate discussed the Faculty Development Committee's report concerning Student Assessment of Teaching which had been circulated with the agenda. Various Senators praised many of the statements in the report. After lively discussion, it was apparent that there is no groundswell of support to produce a single, campus-wide instrument for students to use when evaluating faculty and courses.
8. David Rieck adjourned the meeting at 4:39 pm

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate is scheduled for 16 March.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Parker, Secretary

*Minutes approved at the 16 March 2004 Meeting of the Faculty Senate