The University of Southern Mississippi
Faculty Senate Meeting
Trent Lott Room 101 A/B
June 7, 2013

Recommence May 3, 2013 Business Meeting

Members Absent: J. Ding, M. Elasri, K. Goodwin, C. Meyers, M. Miller, S. Piland, A. Sevier, C. Sirola, J. Wiggins

10.0 Other Business from May meeting–resumed at 2:00

10.1 President-Elect Report

10.1.1 Proposed amendments to Bylaws
President-elect Fletcher reviewed changes to the bylaws sent out on the listserv. Senator Davis moved that we close discussion. Senator Dugan second. Changes passed unanimously

10.1.2 Other
President-elect Fletcher recognized Melissa Coker’s, Mary Ann Adams’, and Ann Branton’s service to the senate with plaques

10.2 President’s Report
President Adams reviewed the impact the senate has had on the university this past year.

11.0 Adjournment of May meeting and end of 2012/2013 Senate year
Motion approved by Sen Masterson and seconded by Sen Dugan

Commence June 7, 2013 Business Meeting


Members Absent: M. Elasri, C. Meyers, M. Miller, S. Piland, C. Sirola, J. Wiggins

1.0 Call to order

2.0 Seating of New Faculty Senate Members
Secretary Story seated the new senators

3.0 Approval of Agenda
Sen Booth moved to approve the agenda. Second by Sen Haley.
4.0 Remarks from Administration
VPR Gordon Cannon requested suggestions on how to manage the current Midas program. The program was started in the late 1990s to serve as an incentive program for those actively engaged in funded research. As the program evolved, there have been some problems and misuse of the program. The program has not increased scholarly product (e.g., manuscripts, grant submissions, grant dollars), so limitations to the program have been placed. The program does not seem to be serving as an incentive to increase grant submissions. The number of submission was negatively impacted by the retirement incentives a couple of years ago. Other incentives that have been updated have been travel support for meeting with grant agency program officers, proposal development grants, and mentoring. There is need for recommendations to keep or eliminate the Midas program by July 17th.

Sen Haley suggested that Midas program money would be better spent on grant development.

Sen Story noted that CREATeS was a valuable resource in the grant construction and bringing in a similar resource could be beneficial.

Sen Buchanan suggested that a better incentive might be looking at salaries and how DEA are managed.

Sen Olmi pointed out that the Midas program does not incentivize grants that do not pay F&A. VPR Cannon stated that we could not afford to run many grants that do not pay or fully cover F&A. For every dollar of research we bring in, it cost the university about $1.05 to run the grant.

Sen Hrostowski noted that some faculties receive funding from agencies that cannot or do not pay our required F&A. VPR Cannon suggested there are ways to handle that issue. Senator Hrostowski also noted that non-tenure track faculty need to be rewarded for grant work as well. VPR Cannon agreed.

VPR Cannon suggested that a possible solution would be a possible award program.

5.0 Officer reports
5.1 President
Budget – We have approximately $4,500 for the year. To date we have used approximately $3,000 dollars. Dr. Saunders had set up a $10,000 account for the Senate before she left. We are considering switching it to an endowment account so it could accrue interest.

Health Care Profession Policy – Students are being charged an extra fee in service learning courses for liability insurance. An insurance policy was taken out in 2000 for those students involved in patient care (e.g., nursing, medical technology, psychology). The question has been “Do other students that are participating in activities involving a 3rd party requires the insurance?” The Controller’s Office is going back to examine who is being charged to make sure that the charges are appropriate.

Student’s ability to charge things to their accounts is being examined because of the large amount of outstanding balances on student accounts. Regulations are being examined and changed to minimize unnecessary charges.

Please note the dates of the meetings at the bottom of the agenda. The fall retreat will be at the “M” Club on campus.

5.2 President-Elect
No report – Out of country
5.3 Secretary
No report

5.4 Secretary-Elect
A dropbox is being set up for faculty to submit concerns and issues to faculty senate. A link to the dropbox will be added to the faculty senate website. Senators will be notified when this link is ready.

6.0 Committee Reports/Discussion
6.1 Awards Committee (Lux)
Sen Lux recommended that awards should be expanded to include retirees. The awards could include years of service, and perhaps, it could be beneficial to include in convocation. Increasing attendance at the ceremony is a priority. The last week of school is not always a good time.

6.2 Academic and Governance (Sirola)
Sen Chris Sirola is absent. Sen Lux described the committee. Charges are given by the executive committee.

6.3 Constitution and Bylaws (Fletcher)
President Fletcher described the duties. He is currently the sole member.

6.4 Handbook Committee
The committee is a liaison on the university handbook committee. This committee needs a new chair.

6.5 Elections (Zelner)
Sen Zelner described the duties of the committee.

6.6 Evaluation and Assessment (Shelley)
Sen Shelly is absent. Sen Zelner described the duties of the committee.

6.7 Research and Scholarship (Piland)
Sen Piland is absent. President-elect Fletcher discussed the duties of this committee.

6.8 Teaching and Service (Iglesias/Naquin)
Sen Naquin discussed an online teaching document. The classroom conduct committee is still “retooling”, and they are trying to see what can be done with the committee.

6.9 University Relations (Vacant)
President Fletcher discussed the duties of this committee.

6.10 University Welfare (Haley)
Sen Haley discussed the duties of the committee and then reported that the committee was currently exploring gender salary disparities.

6.11 Gulf Coast Council (Smith/Naquin)
President Fletcher wants to send representatives to council meetings.

7.0 New Business
None

8.0 Adjournment

Dates of Interest – Senate Meetings 2013-2014
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<th>Mtg #1</th>
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