



MEMORANDUM TO: RP&A Committee

FROM: Joshua Schlegel, Secretary, General Faculty

DATE: 22 October 2024

SUBJECT: Draft Minutes for the RP&A Meeting
Tuesday, 15 October 2024, 3:30 PM
Curtis Laws-Wilson Library, Room 202

1. Call to Order, 3:30 PM M. Bruening
2. Emeritus Status Referral M. Bruening
 - a. The Provost's office's procedure for appointing emeritus professors conflicts with the language in the CRR. This issue will be referred to the Personnel committee, and M. Bruening will draft a memo to the Provost on the topic.
3. Reports from Standing Committees
 - a. Budgetary Affairs B. Lea
 - i. Time requested at the meeting, as the 10% reallocation is on everyone's mind. There were additional questions addressed at the BAC meeting after the general faculty meeting. In the future, BAC is proposing a new process that starts as early as February each fiscal year. BAC will report to Faculty Senate.
 - ii. It was requested that we try to get the Faculty Senate make the presentation slides for each meeting available earlier to get faculty input on topics. The Secretary stated that in order to do so, the deadline for committee chairs to provide the necessary information would have to be moved up.
 - iii. The Chairs Council is discussing strategic funds, which will probably be addressed in a future meeting.
 - iv. Discussion on presenting the current financial position of campus and UM system as a whole in limited time. Data is published on the UM System web site. Starting in November, VCFO will start bringing a scorecard for the University to BAC meetings and highlight major variances that require attention. Desire for the committee to make something more meaningful than just reporting top-level budget numbers.
 - b. Campus Curricula P. DeWitt
 - i. A proposal has been developed for a campus general education policy. It was sent to the Discipline Specific Curriculum Committee Chairs, who should be sending it to the departments for their approval following the process approved by Faculty Senate in February 2024. The deadline for feedback is 19 November so that CCC can discuss and approve. Would go before the Faculty Senate in January.
 - ii. The Student Success Course Committee met for the second time. The plan is to replace or revise FE 1100, and potentially integrate student success into other classes and make it more skill-based. There were questions raised about who will teach the



course and where it will be housed if it is campus-wide. The committee is exploring options, but no changes will be made without approval of the faculty.

- c. Facilities Planning M. Zawodniok
 - i. There is desire for Fred Stone to present to Faculty Senate. The best time will probably be early in Spring semester, about a year since he last presented.
 - d. Information Technology and Computing – None D. Stutts
 - i. The committee is sending a list of things that will need to be addressed to the CIO, that have been very frustrating to faculty.
 - e. Library and Learning Resources M. Bruening
 - i. The first committee meeting was held. The library hasn't had to cut subscriptions in two years and staffing is almost full.
 - f. Personnel – None D. Westenberg
 - i. We will need an ad hoc committee to discuss including NTT faculty from the library in campus policies.
 - ii. There is a need to visit merit raise guidelines for staff, and we may need an ad hoc committee to look into that.
 - iii. Two referrals from AAUP
 - 1. Some faculty are receiving letters requiring them to go through a teaching improvement plan, including letters threatening salary reduction. This needs to be addressed. It was noted that no one has actually shared one of these letters, and the committee will need evidence before they can proceed with any action. The CRRs also require improvement plans if post-tenure review is unsatisfactory.
 - 2. Discussion of workloads being adjusted from contracts without a new contract being signed or any salary adjustments. Are these monitored by HR?
4. President's Report D. Westenberg
- a. IFC Meeting
 - i. AI came up, including what kind of spending is going on behind the scenes to address AI issues (security, etc.). There is an ongoing discussion around AI detectors for submitted work and the cost of these tools, as well as training tools related to AI. Where is this money coming from, if other IT issues can't be addressed due to budget? Mizzou has a standing committee on AI and requires and AI policy on syllabi. Do we want to create an ad hoc committee to establish policies around AI?
 - ii. The Registrar is looking to requesting a revision to the CRR around when Fall semester begins. Current wording states the first Monday after 18 August. As a result, the semester could start as late as August 24 leading to a late end to the semester. The proposed change would read the third Monday in August. This could lead to the semester starting (and ending) very early. Discussion included



using second Monday before Labor Day, to keep the timing of semester breaks consistent between semesters. The matter was referred to the Public Affairs Committee for further work.

- iii. There were concerns about merit raises being prevented if mandatory training is not completed. At other campuses, this applies to the next year's raise rather than the current year. That should be the case here as well, but there may have been some communication shortcoming.
 - iv. DEI restructuring was discussed, focused on whether any events are being impacted. Some issues with student organizations, and having to change the name of events or not being allowed to have events focused on their target audience.
 - v. The Graduate Student Bill of Rights came up. Mizzou has a good one, but that topic is more appropriate for the Graduate Faculty.
 1. Discussion included reconsidering the need to have a separate Graduate Faculty, or whether Graduate Faculty should be a standing committee of Faculty Senate. This was considered during the last bylaws revision, but was not implemented. Referred for further consideration in a more appropriate venue.
 - vi. A presentation was given on guidelines for faculty expression and UM system guidance for in-class discussions. Course content should be limited to areas of competence, and course time should not be diverted to issues extraneous to the course. The presentation has also been given to Mizzou's General Faculty. May be included as a special topic in a future meeting, perhaps during Spring semester.
 - vii. IT and software procurement are piloting some policies to speed up approval of some software, average time to approve is down to 2-3 days.
- b. Campus
- i. After the General Faculty meeting earlier this month, concerns were raised that either information is not being transmitted down to faculty, or the message is getting distorted as it moves through the various levels of administration. We need a more streamlined communications practice. J. Tanner will be putting together summaries of the executive leadership meetings and making those summaries available on the Chancellor's web site.
 - ii. At other campuses, the committees do a lot of work for the campus which reduces the need for some staffing. However they also have some staff support for those roles. Do we need to designate administrative support for our standing committees?

5. Agenda for 24 October 2024 Faculty Senate Meeting

M. Bruening

6. Unfinished Business

M. Bruening



MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
— ROLLA, MISSOURI —

Faculty Senate

Dave Westenberg, President
Paul Runnion, President-Elect
Joshua Schlegel, Secretary
Michael Gosnell, Parliamentarian

- a. None
- 7. New Business
 - a. None
- 8. Announcements
 - a. None
- 9. Adjourn (4:38 PM)

M. Bruening

M. Bruening

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Schlegel
Secretary | Faculty Senate