MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
— ROLLA, MISSOURI —

MEMORANDUM TO: RP&A Committee

FROM: Joshua Schlegel, Secretary, General Faculty

DATE: 13 March, 2024

SUBJECT: Draft Minutes for the RP&A Meeting
Tuesday, 12 March 2025, 3:30 PM
Curtis Laws-Wilson Library, Room 202

1. Call to Order (3:30 PM)   K.C. Dolan
2. Approval of Minutes: 18 February RP&A   K.C. Dolan
3. President's Report   D. Westenberg
    a. IFC 10 March
        i. Budget: State budget has to be passed by 9 May. Request was for 3% increase, counter was 1.5%. Community colleges are going to get more, so we can come back with an ask. Hope is 2.5-3% this year, but will be less in the future due to (projected) decreasing tax revenue.
        ii. Faculty Analytics: IFC is developing a committee looking at faculty analytics (myVITA, etc.), P. Runnion will be serving on the committee.
        iii. Dear colleague letter from Dept of Education: Requires DEI to be scrubbed from all online references. Working on it now.
        iv. Funding challenges: Departments are being asked to identify potential cuts without any firm guidance.
        v. P&T guidelines: Concern with vagueness. CRRs are deliberately vague, it is up to campuses and departments to define specific requirements for their discipline.
        vi. IT and AI: Title II accessibility rule is coming that all digital content must be accessible, UDoIt puts a lot of the load on faculty. New tool called Blackboard Ally should be much more user-friendly. S&T is developing a web page to mirror what Mizzou is developing for AI guidelines for course syllabi. A "walled garden" being developed at Mizzou for AI research in a 'safe' environment. IT approval is still an issue, currently developing a method to share software approvals across UM campuses.
    b. Campus matters
        i. Syllabus bank: A group is considering student requests for more information to help select classes, partially based on student survey. Looking for methods to enhance the catalog, going to require some time at the department level. Really pushing faculty to use simple syllabus, so that it can be made available through Canvas to students not in a class.
4. Reports from Standing Committees
    a. Administrative Review   K. Erickson
        i. Administrator surveys: Current response rates were presented, ranging from 7.5% to 16% for the first day. Survey ends 21 March.
    b. Budgetary Affairs   B. Lea

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      i. Budget updates: A. O'Neil would like to defer her report on the strategic budget reallocation to the April meeting of the Faculty Senate, as several deadlines will occur in the next month. In-person and virtual budget update meetings are scheduled for 2 and 3 April.

      ii. Salary trends: Data on salary trends for various groups on campus was presented and discussed. There was significant discussion on action items. BAC is planning to invite the Chief of Staff to an upcoming committee meeting for discussion, and BAC will be asking for faculty input. BAC has also requested a UM System and regional comparison which was received this morning. Requests for further breakdown of the data can be submitted as a referral.

  c. Campus Curricula   P. DeWitt

      i. General education policy: Will be presented at the Faculty Senate meeting for a vote.

  d. Facilities Planning   M. Zawodniok

      i. Will have a short discussion at the Faculty Senate meeting

  e. Effective Teaching   J. Schramm

      i. Teaching score: CET was directed by the chairs to come up with a 'score' that everyone can use to replace the overall teaching effectiveness from student surveys. It was decided to include two scores, the unweighted average of the standard questions and the unweighted average of the behavioral questions. Planning to present the proposal to the Faculty Senate for approval.

  f. Information Technology and Computing   D. Stutts

      i. Survey: Will include a brief reminder slide for the Faculty Senate meeting.

  g. Library and Learning Resources – None   M. Bruening

      i. F&A Recovery: The library gets some funding from F&A for subscriptions, so reductions in F&A may require that some subscriptions be cancelled. There will be a meeting after Spring Break with further discussion.

  h. Personnel – None   D. Westenberg

      i. Faculty/Staff survey: Starting in April

      ii. Teaching improvement plans: Revised version will be presented to the Faculty Senate

  i. Tenure Policy   M. Nath

      i. Tenure extension deadlines: Two proposals to provide guidance for when a faculty member may request a tenure extension will be presented to the Faculty Senate.

5. Senate Meeting Agenda   K.C. Dolan

  a. Approved by unanimous consent

6. Unfinished Business   K.C. Dolan

  a. None

7. New Business   K.C. Dolan

  a. Graduate faculty: Committee to approve graduate curriculum changes requires two members appointed by the Faculty Senate, per bylaws. President will approach two candidates, one to serve until 2026 and the other to serve until 2027. A motion to hold an election for the positions will be presented by RP&A at the upcoming Faculty Senate meeting.

b. Faculty Senate officer compensation: A short summary of the Provost's position and a description of the negotiations until this point was presented. Various options for moving forward were discussed.

8. Announcements   K.C. Dolan
   a. None
9. Adjourn (5:07 PM)

Respectfully submitted,
Joshua Schlegel
Secretary | Faculty Senate