

MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF FACULTY SENATES Meeting REPORT

**Hampton Inn, Jefferson City MO
February 4-5, 2008**

On Monday night MAFS heard from an invited speaker, Dr. Carolyn Mahoney, President, Lincoln University. Dr. Mahoney recipient of the AAUPs 2007 Ralph S. Brown Award for Shared Governance discussed the importance of shared governance and how it came about at Lincoln University. MAFS also heard an update from Dr. Robert Stein, Commissioner of Higher Education in Missouri.

Tuesday

1. MAFS developed a questionnaire to determine the support provided to Faculty Senates at the different institutions. The goal was to collect data and use the information to ensure that the Faculty Senates are as appropriately supported in terms of funding, office space, secretarial help, and recognition from the administration. MAFS authorized the President (Cheryl) to post the survey we developed. She will modify it based on the comments received and bring it to final form.

2. MAFS also worked on a more subjective survey, but ultimately tabled it until next time.

3. SB 389 – MAFS asked each organization about their progress in developing their questions for evaluating faculty (consumer information).

Southeast – Questions must be separate from the standard student questionnaire. Have three proposed questions (1) Does the instructor care about students? (2) Were the course objectives met? (3) Rate the instructor overall. Their FS support the first two questions, but not the third.
Lincoln – Have not started.

MSU – They have questions proposed, but did not bring them. FS does not want them to use the standard student questionnaire.

Northwest – Have formed a committee, but no results.

Missouri Western – Committee Formed.

Truman – Committee Formed. FS wants the questions to be separate from the standard student questionnaire.

MST ???

Reports

AAUP – David Robinson - HB 1315 (Intellectual Diversity) may or may not pass the house. There will be an annual meeting Feb 23rd in Columbia Brady Commons 231.

COPHE – Brian Long, Director - HB 1315 (Intellectual Diversity) needs to be taken seriously, but may or may not pass the house.

Implementation of SB 389, How to implement the bill?, Setting of Tuition?, What are the penalties for institutions who willfully disregard CBHE rulings?, What is the appeals process?, What is the notification process?

Tuition increases took a lot of effort. They have spent most of their time working on a new funding formula. The Governor and legislature may not have the same sense of how much money will be available. They seem to differ by about \$200-300M. The legislature may try to trim this amount. In the long term, the State budget is going to be problematic in the future.

CBHE is developing the coordinating plan for the state.

Recommendations for a new funding formula for the state.

Budget - Governor's proposal may be in deficit (Governor and Legislature may estimate revenues differently). \$200 to 300M may need to be cut out of the proposed \$23B budget. It appears that higher education may not be tagged for cuts however. It looks like we will get a 4.4% increase. There are additional increases to universities for increasing the size of their healthcare degrees, such as nursing.

MNEA Otto Fajen – Collective Bargaining/Statewide Salary Schedule, HB 1314 (Scarlet Letter Employee Misconduct), HB 1315 (Intellectual Diversity). There may be a bill for collective bargaining, but it is unlikely that there will be a bill passed this year. They are watching bills such as the Emily Brooker bill.

DHE – Chad Hampton – Curriculum realignment is part of SB 389. Establish proposed Entry and Exit competencies by March 10th. Will be published on their web site dhe.mo.gov CAS initiative, Degree Audits, Dual Credit. This is going to have an impact on our curriculum.

The following Resolution was passed:

Support Levels for Faculty Senate/Council Officers

WHEREAS: Public Universities in the State of Missouri are committed to the concepts of shared governance, and;

WHEREAS: Serving as an executive officer for a faculty senate is an exceptionally time consuming endeavor that enhances the university as a whole;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Such service should be funded at the university level rather than through voluntary effort of the faculty member or at the expense of the faculty member's department;

ALSO BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Public universities in the State of Missouri adopt some form of the following recommendations from the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates regarding university support of Faculty Senate:

- 1) Executive officers of the Faculty Senate/Council should be compensated with release time (or comparable compensation). Suggested amounts are 50 percent course release time for the senate chair or president and 25 percent course release time for the chair- or president-elect.
- 2) A budget for this release time (or comparable compensation) should be supplied either by the President's office, the Provost's office, or included in the Faculty Senate.
- 3) Policies for release time (or comparable compensation) for Faculty Senate officers should be included in the faculty handbook or policy manual of the university.
- 4) The Faculty Senate should be supported with a budget sufficient to cover operational needs and appropriate professional travel.

Respectfully submitted

Doug Carroll
Frank Blum

Report to MAFS
Missouri S&T
February 2008

The first meeting of the new Faculty Senate was held in January. The Senate is a more faculty-centric body than the Academic Council it replaced. We held a dinner to honor those who have served as Presidents of the Academic Council since 71-72, when it was inaugurated. About 25 past Presidents attended. It was valuable to see how the Council/Senate had evolved as well as being good fun to visit with colleagues.

The name of the campus changed and only minor problems have been experienced, with the possible exception of an overly aggressive spam filter which was introduced at the same time.

Changes in structure (elimination of academic Deans/Colleges/Schools) necessitated rewrites of the Faculty Bylaws and many sections of the Collected Rules and Regulations. The Administration has worked in concert with the faculty to get these changes made and the campus seems to be moving forward.

Of particular concern were the processes for tenure/promotion and curriculum approval in the absence of academic Deans. Discipline specific committees have been developed to review the applications and make recommendations to campus committees. We will review the process after the first year to see if changes are required.

Last year, raises for academic administrators greatly exceeded those for faculty. Our Budgetary Affairs Committee is in the process of developing a reporting scheme so that this information is reported yearly by the Administration. The Administration also initiated "taxes" on gifts and new endowment income.

Faculty are concerned with the reporting requirements of SB389 and the level of support for higher education from the State Legislature.

UM has a new President, Gary Forsee, a UMR Civil Engineering Graduate.

The Faculty Senate Officers plan to have a meeting with Administrators to discuss shared governance.

Frank Blum, President, Faculty Senate
Doug Carroll, Secretary, Faculty Senate