

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