

Volume XIII, Number 1
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
September 10, 2020

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Raper. Roll was called by Secretary Kathryn (KC) Dolan. Those whose names are grayed out below were absent.

Julia Alexander, Venkat Allada, S.N. Balakrishnan, Stuart Baur, Jeff Cawfield, Amitava Choudhury, Steve Corns, William Fahrenholtz, Mahalet Fikru, Mark Fitch, Samuel Frimpong, Michael Gosnell, Sarah Hercula, Mike Hilgers, Kelly Homan, Ali Hurson, Matt Insall, Ulrich Jentschura, Kurt Kosbar, K. Krishnamurthy, Ashok Midha, Fui-Hoon Nah, Parthasakha Neogi, Jonathan Obrist-Farner, Lonnie Pirtle, Jorge Porcel, Kathryn Dolan, Prakash Reddy, Melissa Ringhausen, Terry Robertson, Chaman Sabharwal, William Schonberg, Michael Schulz, Sahra Sedigh Sarvestani, Kathleen Sheppard, Jeff Smith, Nancy Stone, Shoaib Usman, Jee Ching Wang, David Westenberg, Daniel Willis, Maciej Zawodniok

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 2, 2020 meeting were approved as distributed prior to the meeting.

III. Campus Reports

A. Staff Council

Staff Council did not present.

B. Student Council

Larry Hierlmeier, Student Council President, spoke about the Covid messaging and making sure the student body was clear on the message. Student council has been working with students and administration to get all of their (these?) questions answered.

There is a new membership form which streamlines membership requests. Larry is serving on the S&T Provost search committee and participating in the interviews.

IV. President's Report

Steve Raper, President of Faculty Senate, introduced the 2020-2021 Officers
Past President – Steven Corns
President – Stephen Raper
President Elect – Kelly Homan
Parliamentarian – Kathleen Sheppard
Secretary - Kathryn Dolan

The COACHE survey results will be presented at an open forum on September 23rd.

The Intercampus Faculty Cabinet (IFC) held its annual retreat August 4-5. Beth Chancellor, UM Vice President of Information Technology & MU Chief Information Officer *from Information Technology* discussed strategic planning priorities. More information about eLearning and the budget will be coming. There is a change to CRR 320.035 for promotion and tenure. That information was sent to everyone.

Caprice Moore, Interim VP of Global Learning is requesting faculty input regarding eLearning. Misty House will be sending an email with a survey link.

Interim Provost Roberts has requested faculty participation on a task force to study and make recommendations on issue or organizational structure and process. This request was sent to standing committee chairs.

The following resolution was submitted for Steve Corns;

Whereas Professor Steven Corns has served the Faculty Senate of the Missouri University of Science and Technology as Secretary (2016-2017), Parliamentarian (2017-2018), President-Elect (2018-2019), and President (2019-2020); and

Whereas, as an Officer of the Faculty Senate, Professor Steven Corns has demonstrated focused, collegial, consistent, balanced, and intelligent hard work in support of faculty rights and interests; and

Whereas, Professor Steven Corns helped to guide the university through a time of transition involving a new Chancellor, Interim Provost, and senior leadership changes, as well as significant budgetary constraints; and

Whereas, Professor Steven Corns inspired and motivated the faculty with resilient leadership during the sudden and challenging crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the Missouri University of Science and Technology does hereby sincerely thank Professor Corns for every job well done and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

Adopted this 10th day of September 2020 at the meeting of the Faculty Senate of Missouri University of Science and Technology.

Resolution was approved.

Dave Westenberg proposed the following motion;

Whereas CRR 320.090 does not anticipate this specific situation be it resolved that, in the spirit of CRR 320.090, the Faculty Senate of the Missouri University of Science and Technology does request and recommend that Mark Mullin be granted the title Athletics Director Emeritus including all associated rights and responsibilities.

Motion passed.

V. Administrative Reports

A. Chancellor's Report

Chancellor Dehghani thanked Steve Raper for accepting the responsibility of taking on the role of faculty senate president and to Steve Corns for his service as past president.

Convocation was held virtually September 9th, the Mayor of Rolla was present and welcomed the students.

Due to major efforts freshman retention has increased this year to 85.1 percent. The campus goal is to get to over 90 percent.

The Missouri S&T US News and World Report ranking has slid to 179 and the campus goal is get it back to the top 100.

The enrollment numbers are better than expected and we are down, but not by as many as we projected. International students had a hard time getting visas due to Corona but that is now loosening up.

As of September 10th S&T is reporting 72 positive Corona cases, 41 have already been resolved.

The virtual career fair is September 22nd, and the virtual homecoming is October 16th.

Missouri Governor Mike Parson, State Representative Don Mayhew, and U.S. Senator Roy Blunt visited campus and took a tour of the Center for Advanced Manufacturing Technologies (CAMT) on September 3rd.

When asked if there were any questions, Matt Insall asked about a comment that the Chancellor made previously. Matt stated that the Chancellor said there were no tenured faculty laid off. Matt mentioned that another source gave information that five faculty were being laid off and one of those was a tenured faculty member. The Chancellor stated that what he had said was that S&T did not have across the board salary cuts and he had not mentioned layoffs. He also stated that some of the other campuses have had across the board salary cuts. Matt Insall said in a previous meeting he had specifically asked about a news report that mentioned layoffs and the Chancellor did not recall that but Matt may have asked that. The Chancellor said he did not know of a tenured faculty that was laid off but he would look into it.

B. Provost's Report

Interim Provost Roberts mentioned that the fall academic calendar remains unchanged. The deadline for a 100% refund for classes was extended by 1 week. There are over 1500 sections that are being taught, 50% in-person, 20% hybrid, and 30% online. Two-thirds of online courses are synchronous. This ratio of modalities was an emergent property of social distancing guidelines, available physical teaching spaces, instructor circumstances, and collaboration between faculty, department chairs, the registrar, and the Learning Transition Team. Instructors should be prepared to transition to remote instruction at any time due to Covid-19 conditions. The spring 2021 schedule is being built off of the fall 2020 schedule.

Efforts to increase undergraduate or second year retention have been targeted. Phone calls were made to unregistered students and the direct engagement paid off. There is a special focus on barrier courses characterized by high enrollments and DFW rates of 20 percent or higher.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Budgetary Affairs

Mark Fitch reported that there are three major things to address: departmental reorganization, distance education, and a continuance of what's going on the budget.

It has been proposed that Mining Engineering move to Geoscience, Geological and Petroleum Engineering (GGPE), and that Nuclear Engineering become an independent department. There would be no change in personnel administratively. A new chair and four potential associate chairs might be needed.

Some faculty have experienced a decline in distance education quality, particularly that there are no longer producers available in the distance education rooms. This is due to the cost, IT layoffs, and redistribution of duties.

The budget has not changed much since April. The projection was that our freshman

enrollment would be flat. Freshman enrollment is down, but we have a much higher percentage of students paying the Missouri resident credit hour prices. Due to dorms closing and more, there was a loss to the operating budget. The bonds still need to be paid for the dorms so the system or State of Missouri might punish S&T for shutting down.

B. Personnel

Dave Westenberg and the personnel committee looked at the personnel and budget impacts of the proposed realignment. The committee did not see any potential impact. If this happens, it should be done thoughtfully to ensure that focus is put on staff's talents.

C. Curricula

Steve Raper said the Campus Curricula Committee (CCC) met on August 12 and the next meeting would be on October 7th. The committee reviewed 10 degree change (DC) forms, 20 course change (CC) forms, and 10 experimental course requests. The CCC moves for faculty senate to approve the DC and CC form actions.

Motion passed.

D. Facilities Planning

Kelvin Erickson and the Facilities Planning Committee (FPC) received a referral from RP&A about the campus master plan. FPC contacted Ted Ruth, Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Facilities Services for the answers.

Q: Is there an update on the Campus Master Plan? It has been about two years since updates to the Campus Master Plan were publicized.

A: The 2020 Master Plan will be shared with the campus community during open forums during Fall 2020.

Q: What are the impacts of the current campus budget situation on ongoing construction projects: BCH Advanced Construction Materials Lab, classroom addition to the Computer Science Building, Student Design Center, Schrenk Hall renovations, and Hwy 63 realignment/entryway.

A: No impact on construction of projects; in fact, all buildings are complete or in the final stages. University Drive is currently in design with construction slated to begin next spring.

Q: What is the campus-level investment in these projects?

A:

- Classroom addition to the Computer Science Building - \$6.7 Campus, \$1M gift funded
- Student Design Center - \$2.65M gift funded, \$250K Campus
- Schrenk Hall renovations - \$4.2M Campus, \$3.1M UM System
- Hwy 63 realignment/entryway - \$3.75M Campus (this is for property acquisition outside the right-of-way needed that will be deeded over to the University once the project is complete), \$4M Transportation Development District

Q: What are the anticipated additional campus expenses to operate and maintain the buildings under construction once they are complete?

A: Total impact on maintenance and operations is budgeted at \$266,000 (not funded in FY21)

E. Information Technology and Computing

John Singler introduced the 2020 Information Technology and Computing Committee (ITCC) Officers.

-Chair, John Singler

-Vice Chair, Andreas Eckert

Update on the CIO search; three finalists were interviewed last spring and Mark Bookout is the new CIO.

The Foundry Cluster is up and running there is a 350% increase in computational capacity over the forge.

IT had a forced budget reduction of \$500,000, this is in addition to other budget reductions IT has had recently. This resulted in 10 staff being laid off.

Updates on Microsoft 365: the rollout to campus is in the final stages. Multifactor authentication is continuing to go forward, and the changes are to reduce costs.

E. Public Occasions

Sahra Sedigh Sarvastani introduced the committee to the new senators.

Name	Affiliation	Representing (selected by)
Chen, Hsin-liang (Oliver)	Library & Learning Resources	Administration (Chancellor)
Porcel, Jorge	Arts, Languages & Philosophy	Faculty (General Faculty)
Ludlow, Douglas	Chemical & Biochemical Engr	Faculty (General Faculty)
Park, Eun Soo	Economics	Faculty (General Faculty)
Sedigh Sarvestani, Sahra - Chair	Electrical & Computer Engr	Faculty (General Faculty)
Corns, Steve	Engineering Mgt & Systems Engr	Faculty (General Faculty)
Meeks, Howard	Mechanical & Aerospace Engr	Faculty (General Faculty)

Wong, Henry	Council of Graduate Students	Student (Council of Graduate Students)
Biernacki, Katherine	Student Council	Student (Student Council)
Bryski, Adam	Student Council	Student (Student Council)
Boles, Jessica	Student Council	Student (Student Council)

The Public Occasions Committee (POC) would like to add an open house.

The POC moves that the following be adopted as Public Occasions dates for the 202-2021 academic year.

Open House	Saturday, October 10, 2020
Homecoming 2020	Friday-Saturday, October 16-17, 2020
Open House	Saturday, October 24, 2020 (addition)
Open House	Saturday, November 7, 2020
Open House	Monday, February 15, 2021
Open House	Friday, April 2, 2021

Motion passes.

The subcommittee for Undergraduate and Enrollment Management of the Academic Planning committee requests feedback from Faculty Senate on their proposal for adding new sessions (and intersessions) to the academic calendar.

The proposal is available at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1jGCxs2gFZjTTkfUenj8YFsyqR1cv2alAZ55d7Ek642g/edit>

There is a proposal for additional sessions in spring and fall. The sessions would be four-week terms and begin two-weeks prior to the start of the regular semester. Potentially a credit-by-exam option would be offered at the end. The proposal acknowledges that a small number of courses would be appropriate for this option. The committee would like feedback.

VII. New Business

A. Motion for GGPE and Mining merger

A motion was made regarding the GGPE and Mining merger.

Following today's review and discussion, I move that the Faculty Senate endorse the merger of the GGPE Department and the Mining and Explosives Engineering programs through the creation of a new school.

A friendly amendment was made to modify the motion to: Following today's review and discussion, I move that the Faculty Senate endorse the merger of the GGPE Department and the Mining and Explosives Engineering programs.

Motion to amend passed.

Motion passes.

B. Motion for Nuclear Engineering Renaming

Based on the request made by nuclear engineering faculty members, I move that Faculty Senate endorse the formation of Nuclear Engineering and Radiation Science Department within CEC with all associated responsibilities, rights, support and status attributable to a department within the college or its future administrative successor/equivalent.

Motion passes.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
K. Dolan, Secretary