

Missouri State University Faculty Senate Report to MSU Board of Governors

December 14, 2017

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Leadership Platform of Current Chair: Clarify faculty voice in university decision making.

2017-18 Ad Hoc Committees of the Faculty Senate

1. **Ad Hoc Committee on Personnel Hiring Trends.**

As described in the previous report, this committee is examining hiring trends at MSU since 1990. The report will create hiring trends for the 8 EEO skill codes adjusted based on enrollment. Thus, each personnel category will show a ratio to full-time student enrollment, and show these ratios over time. The trends will be identified as:

Deficient Hiring - a growing number of students per employee in that category.

Adequate Hiring - a consistent number of students per employee in that category.

Excessive Hiring - a growing number of employees in that personnel category relative to the number of students.

Deadline for Report. January session of Faculty Senate

2. **Ad hoc Committee on Policy Review**

As described in the previous report, this committee plays an important role in the review of existing policy and new policy. The Committee on Rules is bringing a recommendation to Faculty Senate at the December 2017 meeting to make this committee a standing committee of Faculty Senate. That recommendation will be voted on by the Faculty Senate at the January 2018 session.

3. **Ad hoc Committee on 120-Hour Graduation Requirement**

As described in the previous report, this committee has examined the change in graduation hours from 125 to 120. The Faculty Senate received the committee's recommendation at the Dec. 7th session. It is anticipated that the recommendation will be reviewed by the Board of Governors in January. Potential implementation of the change will be Fall 2018.

4. **[NEW] Ad hoc Advisory Committee of Senate Chairs.** In November, the past senate chairs who are still faculty at MSU were gathered for a conversation about lingering issues of faculty. Multiple issues were raised but most of these issues can be categorized in one of two ways. First, there are insufficient numbers of ranked faculty and, second, faculty voice in important university decisions has been inadequate. The committee will meet again in January to identify a specific issue about which they can mobilize action.

Deadline for Report. April session of Faculty Senate.

Other Faculty Senate Activity since last report

Curricular Work Group. A large work group continues to resolve various issues with the online curricular workflow system, initiated two years ago. Recent activity has included providing clarity regarding undergraduate certificates so that additional "micro-credentials" can be added to MSU offerings.

Leadership Lunches. The leadership of faculty, staff, and students continues to meet monthly for lunch. This group includes the chair and chair-elect of Faculty Senate, the chair and chair-elect of Staff Senate, and the president and vice-president of the Student Government Association. Recent conversations have focused on providing clarity about specific courses so that students can make more informed decisions when registering. Clarity sought includes writing intensity, supplemental expenses, and +/- grading. The group has also been discussing budget matters of concern to the university.

SB997, Core Transfer Curriculum. At the November session of the Faculty Senate, Josh Smith was invited to present a report from the statewide committee who is developing the Missouri transfer (MOTR) curriculum. There were substantial concerns raised by the faculty. Follow-up open forums are planned so additional faculty input can be solicited and faculty concerns can be addressed. Per legislative mandate, the statewide committee's report is due at the end of December. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) spoke with the MSU president and the MSU Provost about current interpretations of the legislation that could be harmful to MSU.

Innovative Programs. FSEC has been actively engaged in the exploration of innovative programs for MSU. Current discussions are in the brainstorming phase of how to assemble people to activate the development of programs that address workforce development needs.

Resolutions and Senate Actions

Faculty Senate Resolution on DACA. At the October session of the Faculty Senate, a Resolution was presented and passed. After a series of "Whereas" statements, the resolution ends with: Therefore be it resolved, that Faculty Senate joins the rest of the Missouri State Community in extending our support for members of our community that are DACA beneficiaries and for the institutional efforts to support them.

Committee on Honorary Degrees. This standing committee of Faculty Senate brought forward two resolutions for the conferral of Honorary Doctorates. After multiple "Whereas" statements, the resolutions call for the following Senate Actions:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Missouri State University, meeting on this Ninth day of November in the year two thousand seventeen, recommend to the Board of Governors of Missouri State University that the degree of Doctor of Public Affairs (A.P.D.) be conferred upon Roseann Knauer Bentley at the Commencement Ceremony in May two thousand eighteen in recognition of her extraordinary achievements in the areas of education and public affairs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Missouri State University, meeting on this Ninth day of November in the year two thousand seventeen, recommend to the Board of Governors of Missouri State University that the degree of Doctor of Public Affairs (A.P.D.) be conferred upon Stephen Kleinsmith at the Commencement Ceremony in May two thousand eighteen in recognition of his extraordinary achievements in the areas of education and public affairs.