

BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT – 10/28/05

Art L. Spisak, Faculty Senate Chair

I. Report of Faculty Senate activity for October:

1. Guest Speaker: Dr. Frank Einhellig, Acting Provost
 - A lot of trust and responsibility will be placed on faculty as Missouri State continues work on quality improvements, and much of the focus must be on hiring.
 - Presently Dr. Nietzel is driving a few more decisions downward, including the budget, and the cost centers are being given a little more flexibility to operate. It will take several years to become familiar with the changes. But the changes have to do with process and much less with what faculty really do—teaching and learning.
 - Dr. Einhellig talked about the Futures Task Force, which he chairs. Presently, there are 10 different clusters being discussed: Materials Science; Entrepreneurialship; Life-Span Behavioral Studies; Public Health; History and Cultures of the Americas; International Studies; Life Science; Environmental and Water Quality; Musical Theatre; and Technology and the Arts. Dr. Einhellig said working across departmental lines would be very vital.
 - Dr. Einhellig also mentioned that talks are in the process of being held with the University of Missouri-Rolla in the hopes that Missouri State can offer engineering courses. If approved, the curriculum changes would eventually involve the Faculty Senate.
 - After his presentation, Dr. Einhellig answered questions from Senate members.

2. Report from Budget and Priorities Committee
 - Dr. John Hoftzyer, chair of the Budget and Priorities Committee, presented a report on a questionnaire his committee distributed by e-mail to all full-time faculty asking for their preferences regarding the present awards system. About three-quarters of those polled voted to discontinue the present awards system. Because the vote on whether to discontinue it immediately or at the end academic year was close and because of comments, the committee recommended to keep the awards system functional for this academic year.
 - The Budget and Priorities Committee recommendation that the present awards system be maintained for this academic year but then discontinued was endorsed by the Senate as Senate Resolution 4-05/06.

3. NEW PROGRAM: MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
 - This was an interdisciplinary program and not a certification program. Dr. Hoftzyer, chair of the Budget and Priorities Committee, said his

committee had no problem with the program, as the financial support will have to come from the college. After discussion, the motion was approved by voice vote. It will go forward as Senate Action 2-05/06.

4. REPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ISSUES INSTITUTE

- Dr. Lloyd Young, director of the Community and Social Issues Institute (CSII), presented a report concerning the new institute. It joins 15 to 18 such centers already on campus and hopes to provide service research to the community by using intellectual resources on campus. The CSII hopes to motivate faculty to address the needs of the community.

5. REPORT FROM HIGHER LEARNING COMMISSION

- Dr. Bill Cheek reminded Senate members of the Higher Learning Commission's site visit coming up on November 7-9. The meeting schedule hasn't been worked out with the team yet, but he expects quite a few offices and individuals will be visited. Forums will also be scheduled at a later date.

6. RESOLUTION ON ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE ON STUDENT FEES

- There was a resolution asking the Faculty Senate to establish an *ad hoc* student fee committee that would investigate and make recommendations on the amount and types of student fees best suited to the university. Chair Spisak said the Senate Executive Committee will name the committee members. By voice vote, the motion passed (no opposing votes). It will go forward as Senate Resolution 5-05/06.

II. Profile of Dr. Peggy Pearl, Professor of Early Childhood and Family Development