

Delta State University
Faculty Senate
Thursday, September 10, 2009
3:30 p.m., Union 302

Members present:

Nina Baghai-Riding	Jim Brown	Ellen Green
Jeannie Falkner	Leigh Anne Gant	Tony Grice
Catherine Hayes	David Hebert	Leslie Horton
Lawrence Magee	Douglas Mark	Dan McFall
Eckward McKnight	D. Allan Mitchell	Debarashmi Mitra
Robyn Moore	Brett Oleis	Stephen Patton
Anjanette Powers	Subramanian Swaminathan	Tricia Walker

Guest:

Ann Lotven, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

I. Agenda Approved.

II. Minutes from the June 11, 2009 Regular Meeting Approved.

III. President's Report

President Roberts discussed meeting of the Academic Council including: the additional budget cut announced by President Hilbert; changes to the tenure policy (nonsubstantive); ongoing building projects; improvements in broadband capability; and possible changes in Merit Pay Plan

IV. Report from Staff Council

None

Report from Graduate Studies Council

Senator Mcfall reported that the Graduate Council has met under the leadership of Dr. Nylander and the representation and membership is being reviewed

Report from BPAC

Past-President Hebert reported that the committee had not yet met

Report from the Budget Committee

President-Elect McKnight reported that the committee has not yet met

V. Committee reports:

Committee on Elections:

Chair Mitchell reported that Jeannie Falkner has been elected Senator from the Division of Social Work and that names of proxies for GIS and Mathematics will be provided at the next meeting. He went on to state that each senator will be provided with a list of Faculty eligible to vote in their unit/division and ask that all Senators review their list for corrections and updates. Additionally, a ballot will be created to fill the 4 vacant seats (per rotation schedule) on the Merit Pay Appeals Committee

Committee on University Standing Committees:

Chair Falkner stated that some faculty and staff had missed the Spring deadline for requesting committee assignments and the committee will need to determine how to address this issue

Committee on Technology:

Chair Swaminathan stated that he, Secretary Hayes, and the Graduate Assistant to the Faculty Senate, Mr. Leroy Nesbit have been working to locate and archive old Senate minutes on the Senate webpage and this work will be ongoing this year

Committee on University Services:

Chair Senator Green discussed the ongoing issue of the cost of textbooks

Committee on General Academic Affairs:

Chair Horton stated that there was no report

VI. Provost Question Time

Past-President Hebert ask Provost Lotven if the IHL plan for primary catchment areas (map with circles delineating service areas for institutions) will continue under new IHL Director Bounds. Dr. Lotven stated that while policy was accepted in April that discussions related to this matter are ongoing.

VII. Old Business:

President-Elect McKnight reviewed progress for placing a lock on the faculty lounge door and expressed that no cost effective solution had been found. It was suggested that since the room is locked to protect the art loaned by the Art Department that perhaps returning the art on loan would solve the issue of securing the room

President Roberts ask Senators to review the Faculty Handbook which had been forwarded to them via email attachment and to seek input from their units/divisions

VII. New Business

Resolution Calling for Review and Revision of International Admissions Policies

Following discussion related to DSU's current policies and requirements and the disparate fee structures and requirements for the admittance of international students across the IHL and peer institutions the resolution was approved

Resolution Calling for Process by Which to Make Changes to the Merit Pay Plan

Following discussion related to merit pay and the original establishment of the Merit Pay Plan the Resolution was tabled until the next regular meeting of the Senate

Discussion Related to University Calendar 2010-2011

President Roberts offered three possible options for the calendar for 2010-2011 following discussion it was decided that a table comparing the plans will be developed and that members will discuss the issue with their units/divisions

Discussion Related to Technology Issues

Past-President Hebert shared with Provost Lotven and the Senate a list of technology issues, questions, and unresolved problems submitted by faculty

VIII. Adjournment.

Unanimously approved with Executive Session to follow immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Hayes, Secretary