

### Voting members present:

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ashley Stewart | 9. Shalando Jones  |
| 2. Cet Oguz       | 10. Michael Mounce |
| 3. Brett Oleis    | 11. Zina Taran     |
| 4. George Beals   | 12. Severine Groh  |
| 5. Tricia Walker  | 13. James Gerald   |
| 6. Brian Becker   | 14. Doug Mark      |
| 7. Andrew Wegmann | 15. Jana Donahoe   |
| 8. Todd Davis     | 16. Jules Lowery   |

01) Meeting called to order at 3:35pm by Severine Groh

02) Approval of Minutes of November 8, 2018 Faculty Senate meeting: Motion by Senators Taran and Wegmann carries (1 abstention).

03) President's Report - Severine Groh

- **Enrollment** - Dr. Bennett, VP of Student Affairs, waived application fee beginning end of October. Received 650 new applications. Possibility to have an increased entering freshmen class for fall 2019 if the admitted students are transformed into registrations.
- **Student Success Center** - Pre-registration efforts paid off. 80% of preregistration for spring 19. We should relay this good news to our colleagues and congratulate them all for their efforts in reaching out and meeting with their advisees.
- **Academic Calendar** - Academic Council (AC) approved the 2019/2020 school calendar and the calendar is available on the DSU website. To help with the reduced processing time that the Registrar's Office will have, final grades will be due Sunday December 15, 2019 at noon instead of Monday at noon. The Provost will appoint an Academic Calendar Committee to start working on the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar and beyond as soon as possible. Faculty who are interested in participating in this committee should let Severine Groh know.
- **Budget** - The budget is improving somewhat due to several campaigns, pledges, and the arrival of private money the university had been waiting on.
  - All new hires and positions will have to be approved by the President's Cabinet, even those that had not been identified as money savings.
  - Giving campaign yielded \$17,000 roughly in pledges
  - University also received a \$100,000 scholarship pledge with a matching contingency. University raised more than the requirement. Hope is that the donor will increase the match.
- **Commencement** - Reminder to arrive 30 minutes early for each ceremony (9:30am and 1:30 pm)
- **Final grade submission online** - The faculty senate executive committee (EC) has set a goal for 100% of faculty to submit final grades by Monday at noon. This goal was made without knowing current statistics on the percentage of courses for which a grade is missing by the deadline. EC is hoping to get more information to develop realistic goals for future semesters and work towards 100% on-time submission.

04) University Entities

#### Report from Staff Council - Tricia Killebrew

- Feed a Family went well. Collected 64 bags with 12 items in each bag, plus over 100 individual cans of fruits and vegetables.
- Toy Drive currently going on. Bring toys to Wyatt Hall. Items will be given to a charity.
- An important topic is the new dress code policy proposed by HR. Some of the language was not well received at Staff Council that is working with HR to revise and develop an appropriate proposal to present to AC. While this is a staff issue, faculty input would help. Senator Oguz volunteered to participate if needed.

05) Faculty Senate Committees

**Committee on University Services - Cet Oguz. The committee is looking at ways to 1) support International Students and 2) highlight community service opportunities with faculty. Regarding the**

community service opportunity for faculty, Senator Oguz asked city to create a link for volunteerism on their webpage. He also mentioned the possibility of highlighting “impact stories” from faculty and students who participate in service projects. The committee is searching for new ways to help connecting faculty to the Bolivar County Literacy Council to help with the after-school program “the Depot”.

**Committee on Elections - Michael Mounce**

The new members of the Merit Pay Appeals Committee had been elected. The updated membership for 2018-2019 will be available on the Canvas homepage of faculty senate shell.

**Committee on General Academic Affairs - Andrew Wegmann**

The committee revised the faculty senate resolution regarding student course withdrawal and unanimously approved it. The amended resolution will be presented for vote as the third action item during this meeting.

**06) Action items**

- **FS recommendations to AC regarding 1) a university-wide Tenure and Promotion Committee in charge of portfolio evaluation and 2) use of common rubrics for promotion and tenure evaluation.** Severine Groh reminding faculty senate of the results from the anonymous poll sent to all DSU tenure-track and tenured faculty. Based on the poll results, FS chose to not recommend the formation of a university-wide Tenure and Promotion committee in charge of portfolio evaluations. The vote regarding the use of common rubrics for promotion and tenure evaluation was tabled to January 2019 to allow more discussion within each division/department.
- **FS recommendation to AC regarding the creation of a non-tenure Professor of Practice track: Revised Faculty Positions and Faculty Promotion Policies.** Motion for FS to recommend both revised policy by Senators Wegmann and Oguz. Discussion regarding the programs that will be impacted by the policy. Motion carried unanimously.
- **FS amended resolution regarding student course withdrawal.** Senator Beals presented the amended resolution. Motion to approve the resolution by Senators Oleis and Wegmann. Discussion to remove the precedent with Southern Mississippi University. Motion to approve the resolution with correction by Senators Beals and Becker unanimously carries.

**07) Discussions**

- **Weekly course period reserved for 1) faculty presentations of scholarly interests / activities (teaching and learning scholarship is included) and 2) colloquia, faculty training, etc....) to foster communication across campus among faculty/staff/students and promote vibrancy on campus.** Much discussion arose. Taken together, Senator Beals indicated that we would most likely need to write a white paper so to address the impact, feasibility, and sustainability. Overall, senators were invited to start discussing the concept within their division/department so to start discussing next semester.
- **University-wide curriculum committee** – Discussion tabled.
- **Committee work evaluation** – Discussion tabled.

**08) Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.**

**Next meetings**

Executive Committee Meeting:

January, 10 2019 - Walters 103

General Senate Meeting:

January , 17 2019 - Union 302A