

Faculty Senate Minutes  
20 April 2006

1. Call to order: 4:15pm
  - Senators Absent: Pamela Colyer, Marcia Cooper, Cynthia Faulkner, Teame Ghirmay, Wayne Isham, Granuaile O'Flanagan, Greg Penner, Ronald Spangler, Carol Wymer
2. Visitors
  - President Wayne Andrews
  - V. President Beth Patrick
  - Special Asst. to the President Dayna Seelig
3. Approval of Minutes
  - 16 March 2006 – Approved
  - 6 April 2006 - Approved
4. Provost's Report – deferred to President
5. Regent's Report -

Budget has challenges; we have had a 15% increase in professional staff (9% increase of faculty and increase in part faculty) over the course of 10 years while our total production (full time equivalent student credit hours) has remained the same; the number of administrators went from 50 to 47 over the course of those years; we need to be cognizant of this potential issue as we look into the future of MSU or we may be left behind in this changing world.

6. Presentations

**2006 – 08 Budget discussion**

Dr. Andrews,

→ Declining enrollment numbers and productivity will eventually impact personnel issues

+ Reality is that enrollment numbers drive the CPE formula for budget allocation

+ This current budget is the best MSU has had despite the concerns made about the budget

+ The coming year has some challenges that we must handle, but the following year budget is very good <budget is for two years>

Beth Patrick- Budget

+ Very good budget and great opportunities within the budget with 3 projects recommendation for funding for MSU (Space Science Center; Center for Health, Education & Research; Business Continuance Data Center → this is the first time that MSU has had 3 projects funded in single budget)

- CPE makes recommendations; Senate and House creates budget, and then afterwards a conference between the two resolved any differences. It is now on the Governors desk where he can make line item veto of particular budget items so things may change

- We received bond authority for building a student recreational center and renovating student housing (beginning with Nunn Hall)

- Authorized to create Equine Lab Facility if we can secure funding

+ Operating Budget

- Base increase total (\$4.8 million) is great in the second year (\$ 4.1 million) and challenging for the coming year (\$600K)

- Technology Equipment to replace technology used in classrooms

- + Unavoidable Cost Estimates for the coming year is over \$2.5 million (Increases: KERS rates (\$200K), Employee Health Benefits (\$75K; MSU has not increased what an employee pays for health insurance for 2 consecutive years), Technology Service Contract (\$270K), Utilities (\$670K), Leases and Contracts, Liability insurance, Scholarship waiver renewals (\$687K; when we raise tuition costs then we must make up the costs in scholarships given out), library book and subscription (\$100K)
- + Over the next two years MSU is looking to make an \$8 million investment
  - o Close the salary gap with our benchmark peers, so we are committed to making 4% increase in salary increase each year
  - o Graduate assistantship stipend increase; implement diversity plan; undergraduate fellowships; instructional operating budget
- + Tuition Revenue
  - o CPE sets the range of tuition increases for each institution
  - o MSU was granted a range of 8.3-13.8%
  - o Less than 2% of MSU students pay more than \$4000 out of pocket annually
  - o 71% of students enrolled in Fall 2005 are Pell-eligible
  - o MSU planning a 12.8% tuition increase for 2006-2007/ proposed 8.3% for 2007-2008
  - o We are looking to have students pay in-state tuition for internet courses regardless of where the student lives
    - Internet means that 50% of course is delivered online
  - o Removed the mandatory students acquiring 60 credit hours before receiving waiver to live off campus
  - o New Revenue from tuition and fees increase
    - 2006-2007 \$4 million
    - 2007-2008 \$3.4 million
- + Funding Imbalance for 2006-2007
  - o Revenue: Tuition and State Appropriations: \$5 million
  - o Costs: Fixed Cost and Strategic Investments: \$6.5 million
  - o \$1.5 million imbalance and the best way to deal with this is to shift some of the strategic investment spending until the following year 2007-2008
    - The only wiggle room we have in the strategic investment is in salary increase
    - MSU can afford a 2% increase rather than the desired 4% increase
    - MSU's idea is to delay the raise from July 2006 to January 2007 so that we can have a 4% increase which goes to our base salary from that point forward
- + Faculty Salary Distribution
  - o 3% PBSI & 1% equity
- + Questions and Comments
  - o Faculty comments - concerns are that the lack of the raise until January will cost faculty in real dollars; one senator proposed accepting a 2% increase for 2006-2007 and then receive a 6% increase for 2007-2008
  - o President Andrews – we should not focus solely on salary increases without looking at other aspects like holding health care costs constant this year and next year
  - o Growing the enrollment is critical to maintain staffing levels

### **Strategic Enrollment Management Plan – Dayna Seelig**

- + Task force formed to look at enrollment from a strategic standpoint including recruitment, retention, how the university communicates with students, etc.
  - o 31 faculty members involved with some folks serving on multiple subcommittees
- + Task force identified 7 Focus Areas to address enrollment issues

- Advising & Program Delivery (Regression modeling suggests that advising accounts for 60% of retention)
- Enrollment Mix and Marketing
- Student Services
- Admission Standards
- Financial Aid
- University Processes
- Internal Communication

✚ If you want to get involved then contact Dayna or send information directly to a member of one of the subcommittees of interest

7. Adjournment: 5:58 pm