

Senate Minutes
Tuesday, 4/4/23
3-5 p.m.
Zoom

PRESENT: Bethman, Brown, Ferguson, Grimes, Hiett, Hunt, Jackson, Kador, Keeton, Lynch, Mardikes, Olsen, Peterman, Shiu, Smith, Torres, Turla, Weber, Wellemeyer, Wooten, Zhuo
ABSENT: Fields, Riggers-Piehl, Zhu
EXCUSED: Ball, Bhat, Chatterjee, Dallas, Ganesh, Grieco
GUESTS: Laurent, Likins, Newby, Popoola

1. Opening Business:
 - a. Call to Order & Approval of 4/4/23 minutes: Mardikes
 - i. Motion passes
 - b. Approval of Agenda: Mardikes
 - i. Motion passes
2. UBC/FSBC report: Olsen
 - a. Olsen reported on how the FSBC is working through the recent conversation with the Provost.. A number of issues have been discussed, including UMKC's budget model and the allocation of funding for faculty salary adjustments (market- and compression-based).
 - b. The FSBC will work to develop a better understanding of the annual RIM calculations for each academic unit, and administrative financial representatives will be invited to a future meeting.
 - c. The FSBC will transition to a regular cycle of topics/duties as they develop a new annual calendar based, in part, on the BRRR schedule.
 - d. The UBC received budget updates from Chancellor Agrawal.
 - i. Gov. Parson proposed a 6-7% increase in UMKC's core appropriation. (Note: the state appropriation is a fraction of UMKC's overall budget.)
 - ii. Enrollments are not declining as rapidly as before, and UMKC's numbers have held up better than at other Missouri colleges and universities.
 - iii. Over \$100 million has been raised for the Hospital Hill health sciences district development, which will now go forward. It is currently in the planning phases.
 - e. Questions and comments from Shiu and Jackson clarified the following:
 - i. RIM calculations are currently being worked on.
 - ii. The state senate appropriations is currently doing budget mark-up. We'll know by 5/5/23 if the Governor's 7% increase in core appropriation will be approved or modified.
3. IFC report: Jackson
 - a. Jackson updated the senate on conversations with President Choi about active shooter training. President Choi is encouraging students to complete the training. Replacing classroom door locks and "hardening" classrooms more generally has

been discussed with Chancellor Agrawal, who has agreed to address the issue in phases (i.e. buildings will be updated as funds are allocated).

- b. HB 1196, the DEI bill, no longer applies to institutions of higher education. However, the present language includes any initiatives from the Department of Higher Ed.
 - c. Admissions are up 6% at UMKC; 10% at MU; 33% at UMSL; and are slightly down at S&T. The UMKC figures are not the same as those we receive from Doug Swink, and President Choi may be using first-time and first-gen undergraduate admissions figures.
 - d. UM System is assessing the outcome of the test-optional admissions decision.
 - i. At the moment, it's too early to determine the overall impact on student success.
 - ii. One issue that has emerged is communication about how the test-optional policy affects scholarship applications/decisions, which may require test scores.
 - e. Missouri Online update
 - i. Nathan Miller met with the IFC and discussed the need to increase outreach, one-on-one support, design help, and program development help.
 - ii. More recertification options are being discussed and developed.
 - iii. Missouri Online will be pursuing a more robust Turnitin platform to deal with the challenges posed by ChatGPT.
4. Accommodating Students with Disabilities: Scott Laurent
- a. Laurent updated the senate on Roo Access, a relatively new automated system. Notification letters for faculty are now part of an automated process, and the system is now used to help coordinate exam accommodations.
 - b. New staff members were recognized.
 - c. Questions and comments from Mardikes, Shiu, and Turla clarified the following:
 - i. According to the wording of policy, faculty are not responsible for reaching out to students concerning accommodation emails. But the reality of a situation can often put the responsibility on faculty. Turla would like this language adjusted in the policy.
 - ii. Student Disability Services is presently working with around 706 students. That number has been trending slightly upward each year, but it's still below what is reported statistically.
5. Introduction to proposed amendments to Senate Standard Operating Procedures (SOP): Mardikes
- a. Mardikes pointed out the language being changed in the Senate Standard Operating Procedures.
 - b. FSEC will wait until next year to draft the At-Large NTT Representative's enumerated duties (if any) for senate approval.
 - c. The Facilities Advisory Committee has been disbanded.
 - d. There is a new Article IV, which is derived from the recently approved bylaws revision concerning the composition of the UMKC Voting Faculty.

- e. Article V change: pushing back the date for nominations for elections to later in the Spring Semester.
 - f. Questions and comments from Shiu, Jackson, Torres and Keeton clarified the following:
 - i. Section E, sentences 1 and 2 imply that evaluations of other administrators can happen. Torres suggests a faculty evaluation every 5 years. Mardikes will run the idea past the provost.
6. Adjournment
- a. Motion passes.