The 2013-2014 MSU Faculty Senate met at 3:00 PM on November 14, 2013, in Cheyenne CSC. Senators present included Terry McDonald, Laura Fidelie, Gary Morrison, Ted Paddack, Kathy Roberts, Charles Bultena, Jim Owen, Gary Lewis (for Alan Black), Ruth Morrow, David Carlston, Jeremy Duff, Sally Henschel, Stuart McClintock, Suzanne Lindt, Julie Wood, Jon Scales, Jackie Dunn, Jon Price, Jim Gorham (for Jim Sernoe), and Terry Griffin. Kathy Roberts also served as proxy for Jane Leach. Visitors in attendance were Vice President of Administration and Institutional Effectives, Dr. Robert Clark and Staff Senate Representative Angie Reay.

The agenda was unanimously approved.
The minutes of the October 2013 Meeting were unanimously approved.

Current Business:

1. Vice President for Administration and Institutional Effectiveness, Dr. Robert Clark spoke to the senate about information technology on campus. These were some of the main points made by Dr. Clark:

   The University website is under University Advancement and Public Affairs, not Administration and Institutional Effectiveness. Any issues with the website should be reported to Ms. Julie Gaynor.

   There is a continuing effort to make the entire campus Wi-Fi accessible. An additional 75 Wi-Fi access points have been purchased and are being strategically placed on campus to improve Wi-Fi coverage. Recently completed are areas outside of Bridwell, Bea Wood, and inside O’Donohoe Hall. They are currently working on areas on the southwest part of campus, the west side of D. L. Ligon Coliseum, the central plant, the external west side of Moffett Library, parts of Bridwell, and the Hardin building. The Hardin building is the most difficult because it requires a complete re-hardwire to get everything to work. They are also expecting a complete re-wiring of the Fain Arts building in 2014.

   As of now, all dorms and on-campus apartments are wireless.

   If you are having problems accessing the internet or need help with your computers call or e-mail Randy Kilpatrick or Jim Hall.

   They have been working on classroom upgrades. Recently they have installed 72 new PCs and also some MACs in 2 or 3 of the computer labs. The cost to upgrade the classrooms is around $24,000 per classroom and they are trying to do about 10 per year. They have completed 8 this year.
They are continuously working with Time Warner to upgrade the bandwidth on campus.

Banner 9 is coming with upgrades to every component in Banner. They are not clear on when this will happen. For each upgrade they will need to (1) implement the upgrade, (2) test the upgrade, and (3) train people on the upgrade. This will take quite a while and there is no set timeframe for it. Additionally, they are looking at adding a portion to Banner called DegreeWorks that should provide considerable help to the Office of the Registrar in completing degree audits and other tasks. This program is very expensive (approximately $250,000), but they expect it to pay for itself with its effectiveness.

Dr. Clark then discussed distance education. They would like to offer more graduate level classes online.

The University is offering an online mini-semester from December 16-January 10. Every course except one has made. For the students, the classes they take in the mini-term count towards their spring semester hours. For faculty, the classes they teach count towards their spring semester teaching load.

Overall, the goal is to get much of the new core online. They would like to see at least one or two options from each category in the core available for online classes.

Dr. Clark’s office has developmental money for faculty who are looking to develop new online courses.

There is a new Master’s program in Criminal Justice that is coming online in January.

Dr. Clark’s office has recently hired an instructional designer who can work with faculty towards implementing technology into their face-to-face courses, or with those teaching online or hybrid classes.

Dr. Clark finished by iterating the need for higher enrollment so that the University will have more resources to use in keeping up with the technology needs on campus. He asked the Senate to think about what we can do in our departments to promote appropriate increases in enrollment.

2. James Yang from the Campus Bookstore discussed managing course materials. He noted that there were a number of problems with course adoptions in the fall, but they have made a number of updates to the system and are hoping the process will be much better in the spring. So far, they have received 80% of their adoptions for the spring, but still need the other 20% of faculty to get their adoptions in as soon as possible. He noted that faculty could send adoptions via the bookstore website, e-mail, hard copies through campus mail, smoke signal, or any other viable method. He also mentioned that some publishers have been encouraging professors to get students to purchase textbooks directly from the publishers. He asked that if a faculty member is approached by a publisher in this manner that the faculty member let the books store know about it.
3. The Faculty Senate voted on the Piper Nominee for academic year 2013-2014. After three rounds of voting, Kathy Roberts was selected as the nominee.

Committee and Other Reports:
1. Administrative Council (Carlston):
   - Museum - A great deal of time was spent discussing the museum. Two significant aspects were discussed. First, the museum is actively pursuing accreditation. In order to do so, significant changes were made to the museum policy – most of which had to do with holdings and acquisitions. Second, the museum renovations are almost complete. The intention is that the museum will be rented out for community and campus events. It is hoped that by this new/expanded source of revenue will benefit the museum.
   - McCallister and Quinn – Dr. Stewart proposed pursuit of a two year contract with the grant writing/support firm McCallister and Quinn. This was presented as essential to boosting university acquisition of external funding. In the meeting, Dr. Rogers indicated that he would “have to go out and raise some money” to fund the contract.
   - Faculty Grievance Policy – The policy was amended:
     - C. Exclusions
       - Specifically excluded from these procedures are disagreements arising from decisions concerning promotion and tenure taken by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and/or the President of MSU.
   - There were also a couple of other changes related to House Bill 12 regarding posting of information on the university webpage.
   - Non-Course Based Option classes – Dr. Stewart proposed a $150 fee associated with NCBO courses. These are remedial courses that will be provided as an option for students with inadequate TSI scores. These courses will be provided in short blocks prior to the start of the fall and spring semesters. Students will have the option of participating in these short, focused courses and then retaking the TSI so as not to require enrollment in remedial coursework. The provision of this option is mandated by the state; the fee was approved by the Board.

2. Board of Regents (Carlston):
   - The university is revising their approach to next year’s tuition revenue bond request. Rather than requesting money for a library, the university is working to put together a broad, 70-80 million dollar request (e.g., library, science building, IT building, Bridwell expansion, housing, baseball).
   - Strategic Plan will be presented to the Board in Feb. Six major goals have been established which will be distributed to the deans, administrative heads, and the Faculty Senate for elaboration.
   - Grievance policy changes were approved.
• The 2014-2015, and 2015-2016 academic calendars were approved.
• Enrollment management report looks good. We are recruiting more heavily from Houston than before. Also, this year’s entering class completed survey data regarding their admissions experience with MSU.
• Non-Course Based Option classes – the Board approved a fee associated with NCBO courses. These are remedial courses that will be provided as an option for students with inadequate TSI scores. These courses will be provided in short blocks prior to the start of the fall and spring semesters. Students will have the option of participating in these short, focused courses and then retaking the TSI so as not to require enrollment in remedial coursework. The provision of this option is mandated by the state; the fee was approved by the Board.
• The Board approved the pursuit of a contract with McCallister and Quinn. The Board approved Dr. Rogers and the administration to pursue the contract when funds were identified, be they soft money or derived from budget realignment.
• Administration is working to develop a fixed four-year tuition option for entering students. The provision of the option is mandatory. The nature of the program is still being defined.
• There was a snafu with Time Warner Cable company such that departments must pick up a $10/month cost for all cable drops.
• Banner will be upgraded in October 2014. This will be an extensive update.
• The university is developing and launching a small number of Internet mini-semesters. These courses are enrolling well thus far.
• Asked by the Board to present a faculty member at each BOR meeting to highlight research/teaching/creative endeavors. Also the BOR requested that the Faculty Report include a brief discussion of how faculty are helping/addressing enrollment.

3. Academic Council (Fidelie): No Report
4. Student Affairs and Enrollment Management (Lindt): No Report
5. Intercollegiate Athletics Council (Paddack): No Report
6. Financial report (Bultena): The Faculty Senate has $2460.

New Business: None

Old Business: In response to Dr. McDonald’s discussion from the October Senate meeting in regards to faculty tuition assistance, Dr. Carlston stated that he would check on the policy itself, and Dr. Griffin agreed to draft a proposed policy if necessary.

Announcements: none

The meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Duff                  David Carlston
Secretary of the Faculty Senate  Chairman of the Faculty Senate

The next Executive Committee meeting will be at 3 PM on Tuesday, **December 3**, in Apache CSC.

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be at 3 PM on Thursday, **December 5**, in DB189, Dillard.