Delta State University  
Faculty Senate  
Thursday, March 10, 2011  
3:30 p.m., Union 306

Members present:

Eckward McKnight  Robyn Moore  Karen Bell  
James Brown  Nina Baghai-Riding  Lisa Moon  
Duane Shuttlesworth  Barry Campbell  Debarashmi Mitra  
Kathy A. Davis  Allan Mitchell  Lynn Varner  
Patricia Roberts  Stephen A. Patton  Daniel Glenn  
Brett Oleis  David Hebert  Catherine Hayes  
Larry Bradford

I. Agenda (03-10-11) approved and Minutes (02-17-11) approved.

II. President’s Report: Resolution-MAD 01 version 4B. The resolution to make the chair evaluation and MAD document optional for the person providing tenure material has been adopted.

III. Report from Staff Council  
At the Microsoft Excel training 53 were in attendance.

IV. Graduate Council:  
Graduate Council approved around 8 faculty members. The two approved for GIS where exceptional. Dr. Nylander is going to head up graduate online distance learning. Dr. Nylander reported that some students have complained to him about miscellaneous issues in online programs. Dr. Nylander asked those in attendance to go back to their departments and look at quality control. He showed us that some other institutions have an across the board standard for all courses.

Dr. Lotven - Online programs: 2 undergraduate programs, 8 masters programs, and one new graduate GIS program. We are currently in violation of IHL policy in regards to online tuition.

V. Report from BPAC: No Report

VI. Report from Budget Committee: March 25th is the meeting for Athletics.

VII. Committee on Elections: Elections have been completed and the new members will be inducted during the next meeting of Faculty Senate.

VIII. Committee on University Standing Committees: Teaching Excellence Committee, Service Learning Committee and Technology Across the Curriculum Committee have not submitted documentation for two years.
IX. Committee on Technology: Beverly Fratesi has been promoted.

X. Committee on University Services: No Report

XI. Committee on General Academic Affairs: No Report

XII. Provost Question Time:

Recently the Clarion Ledger had an article about Mississippi State and Southern doing buyout of faculty contracts. I have had several of the faculty from around the university ask me why Delta State doesn’t have a similar policy. Is there a reason why Delta State doesn’t have a buyout policy?

It would not be cost effective for Delta State. (Paraphrased Greg Redlin)
See the document “Early Retirement Programs” prepared by Mr. Redlin.

Since it appears that the budget cut is not going to be anywhere near the amount the administration envisioned, is there a money to provide bonuses to those deserving of such?

We will do absolutely everything we can. (Paraphrased Greg Redlin)

Dr. Lotven - IHL is concerned about Delta State University’s attendance policy. Our current attendance rate is around 75% which is above average when compared to other Mississippi institutions. DSU Policy: Students must attend a minimum of 75 percent of all scheduled classes and activities. Professors can increase the attendance requirements as needed by stating so in their syllabi.

David Hebert – Should there be new standardized wording regarding minimum attendance in all syllabi? After stating the University Policy the professor may amend it only to increase the required minimum based on the needs of the course?

XIII. New Business: First reading of the resolution calling for a temporary suspension of the merit pay plan agreement.

XIV. Adjournment: Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Patton, Secretary
03/10/2011, Patton