

Meeting: Faculty Senate
 Date: March 6, 2007
 Time: 2:00 p.m.
 Location: BA290 Board Room
 Adjournment: 3:50 p.m.

Minutes

Members present: Crenshaw, Miskevich, Jang, Ballotti, Creider, Abbassi, Wickersham, Vinaja, von Duvillard, Lancaster (Rankin), Seminet, Odom, Dorsett, West, Lenchner, Schroeder-Steward, Openshaw, Singh (President), Hammack (Secretary)

Issue/Topic	Summary of Discussion	Decision/Action
Motion to Approve Minutes	February 6, 2007 as distributed.	Moved by Paul Lenchner. Seconded. Motion passed.
Guest Speaker: Dr. Yvette Murph	<p>Dr. Murph reported retention initiatives begun this year to target academically at risk students. Letters and emails are sent to all students identified through faculty mid-term grade reports. These students are then invited to attend workshops offered through the Trio Programs and the Mathematics Department.</p> <p>The Division of Enrollment Management has implemented four enrollment initiatives to bolster recruitment efforts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meeting with department chairs for specific recruitment needs. 2. Posting monthly recruitment schedules to encourage faculty participation. 3. Established a recruitment call center. 4. Offering one-time scholarship opportunities for new and transfer students. 	
Communications from Senate President Singh	<p>President Singh made the following announcements:</p> <p>Executive Committee meets next week (March 13) to accommodate this year's spring break schedule.</p> <p>Final committee reports are due by the May senate meeting. Padma, our graduate assistant, is available to help any committee chair. Make your requests at the next Executive Committee meeting.</p>	

	The Strategic Planning Committee draft report is posted on the A&M-Commerce homepage under Quick Links: Strategic Planning Committee. Bring any questions and comments to the next senate meeting.	
Committee Reports	<p>Academic Life: The senate voted to table the proposed changes to the Annual Evaluation of Faculty Procedures document.</p> <p>The senate voted to approve the new procedure for Attendance of Faculty at University Commencement. The procedure was amended to require commencement attendance by faculty only if they were under contract for Fall, Spring or II Summer term.</p> <p>Academic Practices: Senator Linda Openshaw is continuing to collect data for the Academic Disciplinary Problems Survey. Dr. Openshaw urged everyone who has not completed the survey to contact her.</p> <p>Faculty Awards: Senator Keith West's committee voted to nominate candidates for the Regents' Professor Award on an annual basis instead of the current practice of every three years.</p>	<p>Moved by Serge vonDuvillard. Seconded. Motion passed.</p> <p>Moved by Linda Openshaw. Seconded. Motion passed.</p>
Unfinished Business	None.	
New Business	<p>Dr. Serge vonDuvillard presented the following three proposals to Faculty Senate:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change the time period for annual evaluation from a calendar year to an academic year. 2. Provide new and junior faculty members written departmental expectations for tenure and promotion. 3. Allow departments to negotiate separate promotion and tenure submissions dates. 	Assigned to the Academic Life committee co-chaired by Senators Abbassi & Singh.

