

Faculty Senate Minutes

November 5, 2009

Senate members present: Joe Willis, Laura Latham-McKenzie, Lynn Mock, Terry Gilmour, Sonia Ford, Damon Kennedy, Craig Balch, Tracy Gandy, Cindy Cochran

Faculty/Guests Present: Kyle Kundomal, Kim Bezinque, Donna Thompson, Rex Peebles

The meeting was called to order by Joe Willis at 4:00 PM.

Laura Latham-McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes and a second was made by Lynn Mock. The motion passed.

Damon Kennedy made a motion to approve the agenda and a second was made by Terry Gilmour. The motion passed.

Joe Willis welcomed Craig Balch and Tracy Gandy to the senate. Craig will represent Student Services and Tracy will represent Business Studies. One vacancy remains for Technical Studies. Joe encouraged faculty to continue to participate in TCCTA and voice any concerns. Joe thanked Terry Gilmour and Sonia Ford for their assistance during his transition to president of the senate.

Sonia Ford reported that there is \$1500 in the budget for this year. Sonia encouraged members to speak with colleagues about how the money should be spent. Damon Kennedy informed the senate that Mike Makowsky is interested in purchasing a weather station that will be used in the Geography classes and will provide up to date weather information to be posted on the Midland College website. The cost of the weather station is approximately \$800. Sonia Ford also reported that those interested in applying for a mini-grant should contact Ema Rivera and Rex Peebles.

Under the first item of new business instructor evaluations was discussed. Joe Willis reported that within the next few years the process of instructor evaluations be reviewed. Joe encouraged the members to discuss the current process with their colleagues. A faculty evaluation committee is currently being formed to address this issue.

Under the second item of new business, the nomination process for the Minnie-Stevens Piper Professor Awards was discussed. Currently the administration selects the nominees for this award from the current year's TEA winners. One year the academic/transfer TEA winner is nominated for the Piper Award and the next year the technical TEA winner is nominated. Rex Peebles informed the senate that this selection process is being discussed in Administrative Council since the criteria for the TEA is different than the Piper.

Under the first item of old business, Rex Peebles reported that he has asked the Deans from each division to bring a summary of the criteria used in awarding professional development credits for progression in faculty rank to the Instructional Council meeting next Tuesday, November 10th. After this meeting he will report the results to the senate. It was determined that three major questions need to

be addressed: 1) What is needed to advance in the pay scale? 2) What professional development activities will count and for how much? 3) How will professional development for each individual be tracked? The senate will form a subcommittee to address this issue.

Under the second item of old business, Rex Peebles reported that he is continuing to work on a statement regarding the additional week at the end of the spring semester now included in the faculty Memorandum of Appointment. This statement will be included in the faculty handbook.

Rex Peebles reminded the senate that policies are reviewed every three years. However, if there is a concern about a policy before the third year, it should be brought to his attention and addressed.

The next Faculty Senate Meeting will be on Thursday, December 3rd at 4:00 pm in the Marie Hall Academic Building room 101 (Lecture Hall).

Joe Willis moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sonia Ford