

Date: January 31, 2023
Venue: Virtual- Microsoft Teams
Time: 11:00a.m.

Senators Present: Chetara Epps, Teresa Banks, Candace Carter-Stevens, Daniel Splaingard, Julius Ikenga, Shelly Garllote, and Zainul Abedin

Guest Member: Dr. Jeryl Briggs, President of MVSU

Recorded Minutes

Call to order: Dr. Epps called the meeting to order at 11:00am via Microsoft Teams

The meeting started with an introduction from Dr. Briggs regarding concerns and university priorities. President Briggs stated the following priorities for the university:

1. Re-affirmation of SACS-COC
2. Enrollment-changed within state and national
3. Maintenance and challenges on campus
4. Financial stability of the university

Dr. Briggs discussed the challenges on campus and is asking for more appropriation for Valley's infrastructure and different maintenance concerns.

Dr. Briggs asked that items of concern from the faculty be written and submitted to him for review for possible approval.

Dr. Epps asked for the current enrollment and Dr. Briggs stated that the enrollment is approximately 1800 students which is up 25 students from last year.

Faculty Senate Agenda Items:

- Dr. Epps asked Dr. Briggs about increasing summer school pay for faculty.
- Dr. Carter-Stevens asked Dr. Briggs about faculty teaching. Members all shared concerns from each department primarily with faculty being asked to teach additional courses due to low enrollment without additional pay. Dr. Carter-Stevens stated that it takes the same effort/time to teach one student as with ten. Members all agreed with this statement.
- Dr. Epps asked faculty senate members if additional recommendations are needed for the faculty handbook, although, the handbook has been submitted to Academic Affairs. Faculty Senate members discussed the need to adjust the number of students faculty should have to receive an overload.
- Faculty Senate members discussed the need for more online courses to reach students as a retention effort.
- Dr. Epps asked members to send department concerns by Friday, February 3, 2023, so that she can combine concerns to submit to Dr. Briggs.

There were also discussions about planning a gathering or disseminating a small token to faculty members for Teacher's Appreciation Week. Although Teacher's Appreciation Week is in May 2023, we would like to celebrate it in April. We will discuss this more in detail at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:21p.m.