

DAFVM Faculty Senate Meeting on Sept 10, 2020

<https://msstate.webex.com/webappng/sites/msstate/recording/play/3e066899770348ee8f47651bf9874b5c>

DAFVM Faculty Senate Member Attendees: Barickman, Thomas (Casey); Barnes, James; Camp, Jason; Correa, Sandra; Ezell, Taya Marquardt; Fulford, Charles (Taze); Gholson, Drew; Grala, Robert; Grissett, Gretchen; Howell, George (Trey); Jack, Skip; Karunakaran, Ganesh Kumar; King, Jonas; Knight, Tricia; Lee, Alison; Lee, JuYoung; Lemley, Caleb; Lemus, Rocky; Lloyd, Debra; Maples, Josh; Matthews, Rahel; Melanson, Rebecca; Meyer, Florencia; Morgan, Mariah; Nanduri, Bindu; Parker, Julie; Reddy, Raja; Seo, Keun; Siegert, Courtney; Stone, Amanda; Street, Jason; Wamsley, Kelley; Yan, Lifang

Excused: Howell, George (Trey); Melanson, Rebecca; Morgan, Mariah, Gholson, Drew

Absent: King, Jonas; Maples, Josh; Popescu, George; Seo, Keun; Yu, Fei

Meeting called to order 1:31 by Dr. Julie Parker

Reading and approval of May 2020 Minutes

- Note: Did not have meeting attendees recorded from May 2020 meeting
- Approval of minutes: Motion- Taya Marquardt Ezell; 2nd – Jason Camp

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Office of the Vice President: Dr. Reuben Moore**
 - Dr. Moore thanked members for serving on DAFVM Faculty Senate Meeting
 - Things have changed on campus, but we have adapted – thank you to faculty for making us successful at MSU
 - Early March started talking about PCR testing at CVM and Pearl, we are now finally equipped to do this and presently can conduct 350 samples/day (morning samples returned results in afternoon) and also 350 samples/day in Pearl diagnostic lab; if pull in extra shift – would be 1400 samples/day
 - PCR not only test, but is considered gold standard
 - Drive through testing event today on campus; PCR testing done with nasal swab sampling
 - University posts COVID update (<https://www.msstate.edu/covid19/campus-testing>) - # tests performed; positive/negative results broken into categories: students, etc.; isolation/quarantine numbers, etc.
 - 14 day look back period, right now just list – but will be looking at
 - Contact tracing – mostly done by student health center
 - Greek houses been the culprits of campus housing – shut down 10 total, 3 have come back online and another one tomorrow
 - If 3 cases identified in housing block (like floor of dorm or Greek house) – then that calls for a shut down
 - Grants and contracts (in spite of pandemic) significantly up
 - New Poultry Science Building close to being finished
 - Dr. Coble added: Oct 21st ribbon cutting in atrium, limiting # people

- Ballew Hall – working with architect; construction on renovation in next 12 months
 - Blackjack facilities – Forestry greenhouse and multi-purpose building for the Wildlife – getting ready to start construction
 - Finishing plans for the renovation of 5 buildings in the Sustainable Products Complex
 - Bond money received for these construction and renovation projects discussed
 - International travel – 1st been approved yesterday; not approving many – limited and making sure it is needed
 - Dr. Lemus question: With international travel, is University requiring quarantine after trip?
 - Dr. Moore: No, not at this time – unless a positive test or if you feel like you have been exposed.
- **Office of the Vice President: Dr. Keith Coble**
 - Dr. Coble thanked everyone for their efforts
- **Interim Dean, CALS: Dr. Scott Willard**
 - Echo Drs. Moore and Coble’s comments on thanking everyone
 - Enrollment for University up (though enrollment numbers unofficial still); increase of 2.21% between Fall 2019 and 2020 for our CALS – bulk in graduate students → COVID contributed, waiver of GRE and GMAT, and new programs that came online too
 - Winter session: ~Dec 1 – Jan 4; memo from Provost Office soon
 - Spring 2021: All indications that it will be very similar to Fall 2020, in terms of delivery (f2f, online, etc.)
 - A lot of work with Community Colleges and Pathway Agreements – MS Gulf Coast Communicate College- 2 agreements being signed; next working with Mississippi Delta CC
 - Advanced Articulation Agreements
 - Emily Shaw has moved to Associate Registrar; currently searching for Vice Emily Shaw position (Director of UG and Grad Advising in CALS) – 20 applications, 13 met criteria pre-screened to 6 and then took 2 to do interview → decision by next week (hopefully)
 - 2 administrative interns in CALS: Dr. Angus Catchot (*Angus*) (Extension Professor, Biochem, MolBio, Entmology & Plant Path) and Dr. Mary Tagert (Associate Extension Professor, Ag & Bio Engineering)
 - We have been ranked 15th in Ag Sci programs (nationwide) out of 140 programs, 4th in SEC
 - <https://seedworld.com/member-innovate-2021-best-u-s-colleges-for-agricultural-sciences/>
 - Clinical/Instructional Taskforce– report is now up on Provost’s website (https://www.provost.msstate.edu/pdf/CITF_Report.pdf); encourage DAFVM FS to look at that report; discusses faculty appointments, instructional appointments
 - Especially important as it starts to get debated in Holland FS
 - Dr. Moore commented that clinical faculty are very important to CVM, DAFVM and DAFVM FS should review this report

- **Interim Dean, CFR & FWRC: Dr. Wes Burger**
 - Thank you to everyone for work you and serving on FS; feel free to come to DAFVM Admin with any questions, concerns, or needs
 - For past several years enrollment for CALS and CFR have been among the fastest growing Colleges in the University
 - CFR: 613 students across students (617 last year) – did see shifts in student populations – dramatic increases in grad students and returning UG students, declines in transfers and first-time freshman
 - Guidance about the Winter Intersession (4.5 wk semester) to come soon – online only
 - Students can take up to 2, 3 hr classes; managed like a summer 5 wk semester
 - Faculty can teach two classes; compensated like Maymester and summer classes, but above and beyond that compensation; end of Sept/beg Oct will need to be turning in classes for Spring and also Winter Intersession
 - 12-month faculty will be able to receive additional compensation; 12-month faculty converted to 9 month (81%) – each course worth 8.33% of 9 month equivalent salary
 - Primary intent to deal with course overloads – those are first courses to teach; will not allow DIS –ONLY ON THE BOOKS – will have to do a “intent to deliver online” to UCCC
 - Commend all DAFVM in grants and contracts: “You all are superstars”
 - Across 2020 fiscal year, 6 DAFVM units → \$110 mill in grants/contracts
 - Whole University generated \$260 mill, so DAFVM represented 42% of total (DAFVM faculty 25% of faculty on campus, but nearly half of grants and contracts across campus)
 - This was record year
 - Mississippi State University accounts for more than half of total research capacity across all IHL institutions
 - DAFVM alone – accounts for more than 25% across all 8 MS IHL institutions
 - This year \$10 mill in first 2 months for MAFES – 13-14 mill collectively across DAFVM and on track for another record year
 - Link to webpage for Grant Writer’s Seminar and Workshop Information
<https://www.mafes.msstate.edu/workshops/grantwriting/>
 - For past 10 years or so been working with this group on the workshop
 - 2 phases; participation in the seminar alone (phase 1) is 2 days; then proposals accepted for phase 2– 15 faculty will be chosen, 8 month 1 on 1 grant writing – with professional grant writer to go to federal sponsor; costs \$4000 to participate, deans and directors paying for – that is why very selective.
 - 150 pg book with specific instructions on how to communicate to granting agencies; nationally competitive programs – achieving 38-48% success by using these concepts learned in class
 - Even if you have participated in the phase one before, then encouraged to participate again – or maybe even try to go for phase 2

- Clinical faculty Taskforce --- Dr. Willard discussed Clinical Faculty and their importance to CVM, but there was also a recommendation to have a new track of faculty called “teaching faculty” professorial ranks – non tenure track and no expectation for research in PT process; hired and structure time and activity on exceptional instructional; in past we have hired clinical faculty, but they have been teaching faculty→ so pay attention to potential value for the teaching track – as important and more broadly relevant than even some of the clinical faculty
- Question – Dr. Parker asked about financial aid for students for winter intersession
 - Dr. Burger: This is getting resolved/finalized – how to structure so that students can get covered.
- Question from Dr. Florencia Meyer –How teaching faculty be different from instructor?
 - Dr. Burger: In the current faculty structure, instructors are considered faculty, but there’s not an advancement opportunity – and even though they are faculty, they are not of a professorial rank. Teaching professorial rank is designed to create faculty positions that are full faculty and professorial rank, but they don’t have the research or scholarship expectation. Expectation to teach full time and exceptionally well. Importantly, when comes to annual evaluation time (and promotion) you are evaluated on your quality of instruction. Another distinction is an instructor position doesn’t require a terminal degree.
- Question from Dr. Rocky Lemus: How will it work with expectations within PT package – and with respect to the research, teaching and service.
 - Dr. Burger: Everyone may have to review and revise department P&T documents
 - Faculty handbook points to department specific expectations and expectations are for research, teaching and service
 - We need to be looking at it relative to their appointment, because that should be time/effort – and salary comes from that
 - Service component will be common to everyone; guidance from taskforce is “no expectation for research” – will require some rethinking and adjustment on departmental level
 - If you have a zero-research appointment, and you did zero research – then you satisfied your appointment
 - At this point it is only a recommendation from the taskforce to the provost – that is it
- **Extension Service: Dr. Paula Threadgill**
 - All Extension offices in counties open (if clients call ahead)
 - Extension employees can have meeting with less than 10 inside office and less than 20 outside; must follow all social distancing polices and masks, hand sanitizing, etc.
 - Mr. Tom Ball and Anne Hillburn – COVID experts from Extension
 - Commissioner of Ag has decided to have state fair; which has been a concern about sending agents to work state fair livestock show; MSU providing PPE to agents and trying to reduce spread of COVID; will be trying to limit to 25% of capacity for fair grounds (Oct 7-18th)

- Commend Ag Comm and agents through the state – putting on programs and communicating
 - Re-C has retired, Drs. Peterson and Downey will be working with Digital Measures
 - New faculty/agent orientation will be planned
 - Annual conference will be virtual; Oct 28/29 (one of those days will be chosen)
 - If you are doing a virtual program through Zoom or WebEx with minors – there must be another adult in the virtual room with – comes from legal council
 - Thank you all for the work you do; if you need anything on Extension side, please reach out.
- **Holland Faculty Senate: Dr. Amanda Stone**
 - Last meeting was Meeting was Aug 21; tomorrow (Sept 11 is next)
 - Put on your calendar Sept 22 for General Faculty Meeting at 3 PM
- **Extension Advisory Council: Dr. Julie Parker**
 - Nothing new to report that hasn't been discussed
- **Chair Report from Dr. Parker:**
 - Our job is dissemination of information from this meeting to departments
 - Introduction of new officers
 - Chair: Julie Parker
 - Co-Chair: Robert Grala
 - Secretary: Kelley Wamsley
 - Action items: Need to know what term you are serving and what subcommittee you want to serve on.
 - If you are on your 2nd term; 2 terms is limit (based on bylaws); email Dr. Parker this information ASAP
 - Sub-committees – We have 6 of them with varying responsibilities – some are active and some are not, depending on semester activities and hot topics
 - Bylaws have been sent out and Dr. Parker will send again, please choose what sub-committee you would like to serve on or if you want to change, let us know – if too many in one area, we may reach out to reassign
 - Let Dr. Grala know (rkg55@msstate.edu) before next meeting, would like to get finalized by Oct 1.

New Business

- **No new business**

Old Business:

- Discussion about digital measures - Drs. Parker and Wamsley will meet about DM – reach out to Extension people
 - Dr. Grala asked about new platform for DM or new annual eval?

- Wamsley mentioned that Task Force for University-Wide document was created, don't know how much that has moved forward

Floor is Open - Senator Updates

- Recognize first-time senators:
 - Dr. Mathews
 - Dr. Correa
 - Dr. Lemus
 - Dr. Hardwick
 - Dr. Ganesh Karunakaran

Important Dates

- Dr. Parker - We will meet 2nd Thursday of every month – agenda and meeting will be sent a week before. Goal will be an hr for meeting; hopefully not much longer than 1.5 hr.
- Question from Dr. Correa: What is the protocol for sending out notes from this meeting?
 - Dr. Parker: Notes are posted on DAFVM FS website, but you can forward notes to faculty or could share information at faculty meeting.

Motion to adjourn – Dr. Ganesh Karunakaran; 2nd Dr. Lemus; Meeting Adjourned at 3 PM