

**DAFVM Senate Meeting
Minutes
1:30 pm. September 9, 2021**

205 Bost

<https://msstate.webex.com/msstate/j.php?MTID=mdd21d6f8d1c32d376f5c067ead92e749>

DAFVM Faculty Senate Attendees: Adhikari, Pratima; Barickman, Casey; Grala, Robert; Hardman, Alisha; Howell, Trey; Knight, Patricia; Lee, Alison; Lemus, Rocky; Karunakaran, Ganesh; Matthews, Rahel; Nanduri, Bindu; Siegert, Courtney; Stone, Amanda; Sparks, Darrell; Yu, Fei; Camp, Jason, Correa Sandra; Lemley Caleb; Li, Tongyin; Maples, Will; Yu, Fei; Jaffe, Michael

Excused: Barnes, James; Melanson, Rebecca

Absent: Fulford, Charles (Taze), Gholson, Drew; Grissett-Hartwick, Gretchen; Jack, Skip; Lee, JuYoung; Lloyd, Debra; Morgan, Mariah; Popescu, George; Street, Jason; Vance, Carrie;

Call to Order at

Roll Call-Record via sign-in sheet and Webex

Reading and approval of minutes from April 8, 2021

- No changes
- Motion to approve: Dr. Rocky Lemus; 2nd- Dr. Darrell Sparks

Standing Committee Reports:

Office of the Vice President: Dr. Keith Coble

- Dr. Coble is Interim Director for MAFES
- Dean/Director searches are underway for CALS/MAFES and CFW/FWRC; hope to finish this fall; will move towards filling interim department head positions after
- Approximately 55% of students are vaccinated and have seen increases in the % of students reporting they are vaccinated
- VP's Conference Room has been remodeled
- Dr. Ashley Brown has been named Associate Vice-President for DAFVM; Dr. Darrell Sparks is now interim Head for the State Chemical Lab
- IHL voted not to mandate vaccinations with the exception of some clinical positions
- Damage from Hurricane Ida was minimal

- Veterinary Medicine celebrated their 40th Anniversary this week
- The state economy is looking good; potential for federal funding passed down to the state via the infrastructure bill; departments were asked to put together lists of potential projects
- VP's are discussing what the future of teleworking at MSU should look like
- MSU is going through a branding exercise with a branding firm

Questions-Dr. Lemus asked about the mixed message that Covid-19 protocols at football games sends? Dr. Coble responded that IHL voted with a clear majority.

Interim Dean, CALS: Dr. Scott Willard

- Dr. Willard has received calls from faculty that support and oppose vaccinations
- CALS undergraduate is down slightly while graduate enrollment is up slightly
- 15 new faculty and 6 new post-docs
- College teaching minor will be available in the spring
- MS program in Public Health and Nutrition will begin next fall
- Provost Shaw requested that the Associate Dean's Council begin discussions about Instructional Professor/Professor of Practice positions
- Provost is supporting dual enrollment with high schools since enrollment in grades 9-12 will be declining 3-4% and competition for those students will increase
- Transformational change: Data science and precision ag will be at the forefront for agriculture

Interim Dean, CFR & FWRC: Dr. Wes Burger

- CFR enrollment was down slightly (from returning students)
- Face to face instruction is going well
- At the request of Provost Shaw, Dr. Burger is chairing a Faculty Development Task Force since many new faculty don't have formal teaching experience; there is a new academy with CTL; looking at the approach to providing continuous engagement for pre-tenure faculty and equipping new faculty for success
- Contracts and grants office has a vacant position that they hope to have refilled by October
- SRI grant RFP will be rolling out tomorrow;

Extension Service: Dr. Gary Jackson

- Thankful for the leadership of Dr. David Buys and other Extension professionals who established a lot of the safety guidelines for MSU COVID response from the start
- Dr. Jackson is chairing the National Broadband committee in the national ECOP group
- Completed program planning and looking for economic, environmental, and social impact statements

- Never completely rebounded from FY16-18 budget cuts but were able to reallocate funding and are on our way back to filling to some of our positions; currently searching for 6 faculty with Extension appointments and 2 more coming soon; looking to hire 16 new Extension agents (30 county agents only have one agent and should have a minimum of 2).
- 9.9% budget increase in Extension budget split between faculty raises and operations (technology, positions, etc.); faculty salary increases are the #1 priority at this point
- Faculty have been very productive and
- Annual conference award nomination packets coming out soon to nominate your colleagues for outstanding Extension work

Holland Faculty Senate: Dr. Amanda Stone

- Holland Faculty Senate meets tomorrow
- Two Covid related resolutions will be discussed

DAFVM Executive Council: Dr. Robert Grala

- Dr. Coble presented his vision for DAFVM; he encourages engagement with stakeholders as well as cross-college collaborations

Extension Advisory Council: Dr. Robert Grala

- Recent programming has focused on Covid, hurricane response, and health
- Scholarship of Extension and the importance of informal teaching continue to be emphasized
- The impact of broadband internet access and quality on programming is a concern

Faculty Housing Appeals Committee: Dr. Robert Grala

- One request for an extension for faculty housing was approved
- Two appeals are in process

Report of the Chair and Vice Chair

Introduction of 2021-22 academic year DAFVM Faculty Senate officers:

Chair: Dr. Robert Grala

Vice-Chair: Dr. Amanda Stone

Secretary: Dr. Tricia Knight

- A transition meeting between outgoing and incoming DAFVM Faculty Senate officers was held in summer.
- Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President Task Forces and their reports.

Unfinished Business

- Some DAFVM Senators rolled off at the end of 2020-21 academic year and their respective units nominated replacements. Please, make sure that information provided in the roster is correct and indicate any needed changes if applicable.
- We need volunteers to serve on DAFVM Faculty Senate Committees (Academic Affairs, Ancillary Affairs, Charter and Bylaws, Faculty Affairs, Nominations, and Resources). If you do not serve on any committee and are available, please volunteer and sign up for a committee of your choice.
- DAFVM Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
- Livestreaming and recording of DAFVM Faculty Senate meetings.
- Follow up on Dr. Parker's comments from April meeting (p. 5 of minutes); suggestions included to include sabbaticals, SEC travel grants are available, USDA does offer some workshops, devote a small portion of SRI for continuing education; a list of opportunities could be assembled.

New Business

- Senators should review the list of committees and volunteer for service; an email will be sent listing the committees
- We have an executive committee; we need a parliamentarian
- Meetings will be live streamed via Webex; link is only provided to the senators

- Digital Measures updates.
- Charter and Bylaws.

Floor is Open - Senator Updates

Important Dates

DAFVM Faculty Senate meetings scheduled for the 2021-22 academic year (the second Thursday of every month; 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm):

September 9, 2021
 October 14, 2021
 November 11, 2021
 December 9, 2021
 January 13, 2022
 February 10, 2022
 March 10, 2022
 April 14, 2022
 May 12, 2022

Adjourn at

Motion: Dr. Rocky Lemus; 2nd – Dr. Darrell Sparks