

**Fiftieth Faculty Senate
Northwest Missouri State University
Full Senate Meeting Minutes**

January 17, 2024

Members in Attendance:

Rob Voss, Kristi Alexander, Jill Baker, Brett Chloupek, Elyssa Ford, Giselle Greenidge (departed at 5:00pm), Ajay Bandi, Araceli Hernandez Gonzalez, Tony Olson, Devlin Scofield, Csilla Tasi, Jeff Bradley, Johnny Chuang, Machel Skinner, Aziz Fellah, Trevor Meyer, Kristi Alexander, Jenni Wall, Richard Black, Rhonda Beemer, Ashley Strickland, Kylie Wilson, Oscar Perez-Hernandez (alternate for Mike Miller)

Members Absent:

Mike Miller

- **Call to Order**
 - President Beemer called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m.
- **Approval of Agenda**
 - **Motion to approve Senator Olson /Second by Senator Gallaher** The agenda was approved with one abstention.
- **Approval of Minutes**
 - **Motion to approve Senator Olson/Second by Senator Gallaher** The minutes were approved with one abstention.
- **Special Guests**
 - Dr. Lance Tatum, President
 - Dr. Tatum reported on the status of the University with regard to partnerships, funding, budgets, and the relationships that individuals, stakeholders, and community partners appreciate from Northwest.
 - Dr. Tatum reported that there have been many groups that have been hosted at the Gaunt House as a means for continuing to develop relationships and develop increased accessibility for the President and First Family and the Gaunt House.
 - Dr. Tatum reported on the importance of the enrollment picture for institutional viability and alumni relations about enrollment patterns and 21st-century ways that enrollment is measured. For the first time enrollment at Northwest topped 10,000. Dr. Tatum indicated that enrollment is counted in many different ways and part of his role is to help others understand how enrollment is measured. Undergraduate enrollment is still an important priority for Northwest. He reported that he believes that recruitment starts in middle school and that Northwest is looking at ways to recruit those

students to campus for programming. The academic year 2025-2026 is the target priority for enrollment goals.

- Dr. Tatum indicated that he has worked with International Affairs to diversify the enrollment portfolio of international students across different countries and disciplines and to help make the campus a place that cares for international students after they arrive.
- Dr. Tatum addressed the infrastructure improvements he approved during the summer of 2023 and related the strong financial status of the institution. Dr. Tatum indicated that the infrastructure improvements will be invasive to campus when they begin (likely summer 2024) and for us all to be prepared for the impact and the eventual final outcome will be very positive for the campus.
- Dr. Tatum addressed the need for addressing the strategic plan so that it is more user-friendly and so that the essence of the plan is preserved.
- Dr. Tatum related that his ultimate goal is to create a healthy organization that allows us all to take opportunities as they come. He referenced enrollment growth and stabilization, the collegiate experience, and our people as the 'big rocks' he and the leadership team have addressed. He indicated that he has challenged the leadership team to find a way to reinvest in the institution in the next budget cycle.
- Dr. Tatum thanked the faculty for making accommodations for the inauguration on April 19.

- **Reports:**

- **Provost Report (Dr. Hooyman)**

- Dr. Hooyman addressed the comments Dr. Tatum made about the questions about the structure of the academic units which is something that may be considered.
 - Dr. Hooyman announced that rental costs will be covered for regalia for graduation and the inauguration.
 - Dr. Hooyman thanked the faculty for helping to make the winter days safe for students. She indicated that faculty have the options to do assignments or meet via Zoom on the days when the university is not open.
 - In response to questions, the Provost explained that the archiving of courses after 1 year had been in response to some security concerns related to courses not always being locked at the end of a semester and because of some faculty complaints about too many courses appearing on their dashboard. Numerous faculty at the meeting expressed their concerns with the new practice, and it was recommended that questions like this could be done in coordination with the senate's Teaching and Learning Committee. The chair of

this committee and the provost have a scheduled meeting to discuss course archiving and the problems the current practice is posing.

o **Human Resources (Krista Barcus)**

- Ms. Barcus reported that Northwest continues to work with Evergreen as part of the ongoing work for the compensation study.
- The engagement survey results are in and were to have been shared with the NLT this week. However, they will be shared with the NLT after the compensation study results are given to the NLT due to the cancellation of NLT due to weather.
- Ms. Barcus thanked all for attending the recognition events that occurred in December.

o **Senate President (Dr. Rhonda Beemer)**

- President Beemer reported on the timelines for committees so that Senate will be on track with the bylaws for elections, etc.
- President Beemer announced the reinstitution of the Faculty Senate Awards to align with the celebration of the milestone of the fiftieth year of Faculty Senate. March 20 or March 27 are proposed dates for the celebration.
- FASFA has been a challenge this year and students may need extra assistance with that this year.
- If senators have a bylaw change to make please send to the Parliamentarian as soon as possible.

o **Academic Petitions (Dr. Miller)**

- Dr. Perez-Hernandez reported for Dr. Miller that the committee reviewed five petitions and will meet again on February 8.

o **Academic Appeals (Dr. Greenidge)**

- No report

o **CDR (Dr. Meyer)**

- Senator Meyer reported that CDR has not met since the last meeting, but thirty-six proposals are looming.
- Senator Meyer indicated that ongoing professional development for the proposal process is available.

o **DCM (Dr. Hill)**

- Senator Meyer reported for Senator Hill. Work continues on the work to manage the Humanities section of the degree audit.

o **Assessment (Dr. Fellah)**

- Senator Fellah reported that the committee will meet on January 25.

o **Teaching and Learning (Dr. Gallaher)**

- Senator Gallaher reported that the committee will meet with the Provost on January 23.

o **Academic Integrity Panel (Dr. Scofield)**

- Senator Scofield reported that the next meeting will be on January 24.

o **Faculty Welfare and Budget (Dr. Ford)**

- Senator Ford reported that the committee continues to work on a more robust faculty grievance procedure. The committee will meet a second time in January and Krista Barcus and Stacy Carrick have been invited to the February meeting.
 - o **Legislative (Dr. Chloupek)**
 - Senator Chloupek reported that the committee has not met.
 - o **COTE, Graduate Council, Research, IRB, Animal Welfare, University Seminar**
 - No Reports
- **Old Business**
 - o None
- **New Business**
 - o Proposals
 - Motion to approve proposal 124-61-03 by Senator Meyer/Second by Senator Olson. Yay-18 Nay-0 Abstention-1 Motion passes.
 - Motion to approve proposal 124-61-02 by Senator Meyer/Second by Senator Olson. Yay-18 Nay-0 Abstention-1 Motion passes.

ID #	Initiator	Number	Type	Name
1	Kristina Alexander	124-61-03	Change Program	Educational Leadership. Ed.S.
2	Kristina Alexander	124-61-02	Change Program	Central Office/Superintendent - District Level Certificate

- 50th Faculty Senate Activities
 - o President Beemer indicated she would like to have events that publicize and encourage faculty to participate in Senate.
 - **Items from the Floor**
 - o None

Motion to adjourn by Senator Olson /second by Senator Chloupek.

President Beemer adjourned the meeting at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Jill Baker, Faculty Senate Secretary