Welcome Our New President, Dr. Carolyn Meyers

We welcome our new president, Dr. Carolyn Meyers to Jackson State University. The Faculty Senate is ready to do our part to make your tenure as president as productive and fulfilling as possible.

Our primary issue and concern is that of faculty shared governance. We believe the university as a whole will become a better place once faculty are more involved in the decision making process on issues and policies that affect us. We have patience and we have waited for such a time. We believe that the time might be now.

Your arrival at JSU represents change, and anytime there is change hope springs forth. You have already made history as our first permanent female president. May your time here continue to be one of history making change.

Mahasin C. Owens-Sabir
What is Shared Governance?

“Shared governance means and requires the full participation of the faculty, staff, and students on all matters that directly or indirectly impact the academic environment at the university. These matters include, but are not limited to curriculum, course content, class schedules, evaluations, representation on other units or bodies, discipline or dismissals of faculty/staff/students, fair academic policy, and fair faculty/staff/student representation on search committees for University administration. Administrations will act on such recommendation and provide timely and reasonable rationale for any modification or rejection of input received.”

You can read the entire shared governance document on the Faculty Senate web page. The University adopted this shared governance policy in the 2002 handbook. The University also endorsed the “1940 Statement of Principles on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) in our current handbook (2002; .81).

We are admonished as professors to be “guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge.” This is our profession, and we should never submit to it being diminished.

Faculty Handbook

We will submit the completed draft of the handbook with the Faculty Senate’s input to Academic Affairs within the next week. This is the last call for any faculty member to contact your senator for a copy of the draft. Read it carefully to make sure your concerns have been adequately addressed. The handbook and its importance is second only to the Faculty Senate. Whereas the Faculty Senate is our governing body that looks out for our best interest, the handbook is our guide to how to protect our interest. However, neither the Faculty Senate nor the handbook can help us if we do not help make them the best that they can be, and use them.

We will receive a copy of the corrected draft once the input has been included, for final adoption by the Faculty Senate.

Your Issues and Concerns

Submit your issues and concerns and we will do our best to get answers.

Q. What is the one key thing that you can do to protect yourself?

A. Document, document, document, this is the most important thing you can do to protect yourself. Do not waste your time on verbal or written sparring over issues, especially trivial ones. The less said verbally the better, get as much as possible in writing. Keep a log and file of important events and activities that are violations of your shared governance rights. Follow the chain of command, and the grievance steps. If the issue is not resolved, submit a copy of your file to the Faculty Senate.
2010 - 2011 Faculty Senate Executive Committee

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Spotlight on You  Highlights Faculty Accomplishments

Send us your accomplishments so we can recognize you for your hard work.

Dr. CoSandra McNeal, Professor of Sociology in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice is Co-PI of the recently funded 3.5 million dollar ADVANCE grant from NSF. She has been a professor at JSU for 14 years since receiving her doctorate from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1996. Some of her recent accomplishments include: Outstanding Proposal Community Grant Program recipient; A selected HERS (Higher Education Resource Services) participant; Subject Matter Expert for McGraw Hill Publishing Co. (Learn Smart Sociology Project); Facilitator for NSF’s Women Faculty of Color from HBCUs Luncheon, and Senior Personnel for NSF’s SPICE Program in The College of Science and Technology.

Dr. McNeal is a member of the leadership team led by Dr. Loretta Moore, PI, in the College of Science and Technology that wrote the grant lauded by Dr. Kelly Mack of NSF as “a highly competitive proposal.” A key component required by NSF for the ADVANCE Institutional Transformation grant is the Social Science component. She worked with another colleague, Dr. Mahasin Owens-Sabir to craft the Social Science Component. Dr. McNeal is currently working with the College of Science and Technology on another NSF project in The College of Science and Technology to develop computational thinkers in a cyber-enabled environment.