**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Faculty Senate Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Zoom Meeting**

**November 18, 2021**

**10 a.m.**

**“Hear our Roar”**

**Re-envisioning the Faculty SENATE, Open Communication, Academic Excellence, & Respect**

**Executive Committee/Senators in Attendance**: Dr. McLin, Mr. Don Spann, Dr. Sophia Leggett, Dr. Patrick Rettger, Dr. André Hines, Dr. Albert Carter, Dr. Barbara Graham, Dr. Belinda Davis-Smith, Dr. Candace Brown, Dr. Chaiqua Harris, Dr. David Machloch, Dr. Darryl E. Harris, Dr. Edmund Merem, Dr. Ella Moore-Boyd, Dr. Glenda Winfield, Dr. Gwendolyn Dawkins, Dr. Etta Morgan, Dr. Jaegoo Lee, Dr. Jae Young Koo, Dr. Jean Claud Assad, Dr. Jennifer Wiles, Dr. Jessica Murphy, Dr. John Watts, Dr. Kaye Sly, Dr. LaDonnya Drummond, Dr. Li-Jing Chang, Dr. Lomarsh, Dr. Maricica Pacurari J., Dro Mustafa Younnis, Dr. Naira Ibrahim, Dr. Paul Tchounwou, Dr. Thiagn, Dr. Thomas Kersen, Dr. Timothy Turner, Dr. Trenia Allen, and Dr. Brian Anderson

**Welcome** - The meeting was called to order at by President McLin. Dr. McLin welcomed all Senators and Faculty in attendance. She requested that all Senators and Faculty sign in using the Chat and indicate if they are a Senator.

1. **Review & Approval of Minutes** - The meeting minutes for October 2021 were approved.
2. **Committee Reports:**

***Dr. McLin: Hall of Fame*** – Dr. McLin reported that the Hall of Fame Committee met and came up with criteria for the Faculty Hall of Fame. They plan to meet in December to discuss if the name should change and if the membership of the committee should include others outside of the Faculty Senate. President Hudson request that these changes be considered.

***Mr. Spann: Website & Budget*** – Mr. Spann reported that the Budget committee met on the 10th of November and discussed the purchase of 50 portfolios. He shared that the starting budget was $7166, the portfolios cost $1466.46, the grab & go lunch cost was $899.50, leaving a balance of $4800.06.

He reported that the website is up-to-date and he is in conversations with IT to make the website more user-friendly. Dr. McLin indicated that Dr. James Minor donated his $500 back to the Faculty Senate and she is looking into starting a Faculty Senate endowment.

**Dr. Leggett: Research –** Dr. Leggett reported that the Research Committee did not meet because they have not received the research policy.

**Dr. Hines: Faculty Life –** Dr. Hines reported that the committee has completed incorporating the Faculty’s recommendations to the Handbook and P & T document. She thanked the Faculty and Committee for all of their hard work on the documents. Dr. Hines read a statement on Intellectual Property to be included in the documents and asked for feedback. The statement read *“In order that faculty has control over the direction, integrity and use of his or her scholarly work, as a general principle ownership of all types of intellectual property shall rest with the faculty who creates it. Such ownership is recognized as an integral part of academic freedom.”*  Dr. Hines indicated that both documents will be submitted to the Provost by December 1st.

**Dr. C. Howard: Curriculum & Teaching –** Dr. Howard was not in attendance. Dr. McLin reported that Dr. Howard is recruiting members for the committee and Senators should reach out to Dr. Howard if they are interested.

**New Business:**

**4. President Hudson: Administrative Council Meeting Updates, enrollment, HEERF Funds, etc –** Dr. McLin reported on items discussed in the Administrative Council meeting including; 1) student enrollment at 7080 (2331 graduate students) and, 2) students will receive $1500 - $1600 in HEERF funds.

**5. Covid-Vaccination policy JSU Upload documents: Via Paws -** All Faculty are required to upload their COVID vaccination record into the PAWS portal and must submit exemption paperwork where appropriate.

**6. JSU Advisement Center (Common Cause), JSU Health Center -** Several concerns has been reported concerning the Advisement Center including; disjointed and gaps in services. The Provost has indicated that she is aware of the problems and expects that these will be resolved when the Advisement Center is under Academic Affairs effective January 2022.

It was reported that although there has been rumors, the JSU Health Center is not being contracted out; however, the administration is looking for partnerships to increase HIV/AIDS services.

1. **University Wide Committees: (Commencement, Founder’s Day, etc.) –** Faculty members have expressed concerns regarding the lack of faculty representation on University Wide Committees. Dr. McLin shared concerns regarding students inappropriate dress attire and activity at commencements. President Hudson responded that he will not be policing student dress attire at commencements but agreed that the administration will share the expected decorum. Provost Mosely has indicated that she will work on adding faculty to these committees. Dr. McLin indicated that if Faculty members agree to serve on committees, they should be active committee members.

**Unfinished Business:**

1. **FedEx: Faculty Speaker Series & Mini Grant awards** – Dr. McLin reported that we are currently looking for speakers for the Spring Semester.

Mini Grants awarded include:

* Canhao Wang, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science Title: Numerical Simulation of COVID-liked Aerosol Transmission in Classrooms.
* Regan Jackson, College of Liberal Arts Music “Title: Integrating the Civil Rights Movement (Social Studies) into the Orff and Kodály Approaches. Music Education - Engaging in Ensemble Based Performances Post Covid-19&quot
* Amira Wallace, College of Liberal Arts, Department of

English, Speech Communication, and Foreign Language Proposed Research Title: How Science Became Literate: Nineteenth-Century Fiction and the Popular Imagination

* Lingyun Ma, College of Business/ Department of

Accounting, Finance, and Entrepreneurship “Title: The Impact of COVID 19’s on Disaster Recovery Plan in the Small Business: Evidence from the State of Mississippi

* Vivek Sunchu, CSET/Department of Electrical “Title: Multimodal Freight Analysis Model Commodity flow is a defining aspect of the Mississippi regional economics’ viability and livability.

1. **United Faculty Senate Associations of MS Update & Critical Race Theory** – The Association met last month. They will be sending a thank you letter to IHL for being incompliant with the President’s Executive Order. Other discussions included; 1) Pay Equity and Ombudsmen process, and 2) Critical Race Theory. President Hudson has indicated that he expect faculty to continue teaching the way they always have been and there is protected academic freedom at JSU and that won’t change.
2. **Evaluation of Chairs & Deans, instrument, Search Committee for College of Education** – The Provost has indicated that they are purchasing a software package for the evaluation of Chairs and Deans; she sent the Executive Committee a rough draft of what the instrument will look like. The search committee has completed their training and will be meeting next week.
3. **Pay Study** – Yesterday Dr. McLin and Dr. Leggett met with Dr. Houston, Dr. Harper, Dr. Brown, and Ms. Pack and determined that a new bid will be issued. It has been requested that we change our scope of work and Monday we should know how soon the bid will be sent out. Dr. McLin reiterated that we want to look at pay equities across campus and she is open to ideas from Faculty regarding scope changes. She reported that HBCU’s across the country pay their Faculty about 18% less than other Universities.
4. **Public Health & Social Work Concerns** – Dr. McLin reported that the Provost has indicated that she is meeting with Social Work on November 11th and she will be honoring Faculty request for Faculty lines. Dr. Patrice Jenkins reported that there are several positions that need to be filled in Social Work and they have not received access to their budget. She also reported that 3 or 4 affiliation agreements have not been processed and is in legal. It was reported that the BSW department continue to be concern with where they will be moving because they have not received updates. Dr. Brian Anderson reported that there was a Zoom call with the Provost indicating potential spaces.
5. **Office of Research and Economic Development Concerns** – Dr. McLin reported that we continue to receive concerns regarding the Office of Research. President Hudson has requested that our concerns be put in writing with numbers.

Reported concerns include the following:

* Concerns about research infrastructure of JSU
* What is the Division goal/strategic plan to elevate JSU?
* What resources or plans are in place to support Junior Faculty in the wake of COVID
* What resources or plans are in place to support Senior Faculty in the wake of COVID
* Indirect Cost reports for all PI’s, Deans, requested not received
* Templates on JSU Website, budgets, etc
* Incentives for faculty, pay scale, etc.
* A few faculty have commented it’s a “Headache” to get things done in the Division of Research
* He’s not approachable
* Everyone is not brought to the table for interdisciplinary research opportunities
* What is the vision to gauge, attract or include social sciences in research projects
* Who are the members of Institutional Animal Care & Use Committee (IACUC) Inspections
* Who are members of the Bio Safety Committee
* Who is the compliance officer? Some of these members have retired from JSU
* Division of Research Organizational Chart
* Outdated website and no annual report
* No plan to reach R1 Institutional status

A poll was conducted during the meeting to gauge the Faculty concerns and determine next steps. Three questions asked and results of the poll include:

1. Are you satisfied with the progression of the Office of Research? (83% not satisfied)
2. Are you satisfied with Dr. Whittaker’s leadership in the Division of Research and Economic Development? (92% not satisfied)
3. Should the Faculty Senate send a satisfaction survey to the entire Faculty regarding the Division of Research and Economic Development? (92% indicated yes)

Based on the feedback on the poll the Senate will send a satisfaction survey out to all Faculty members. Dr. McLin request recommendations on how we can improve the Office of Research.

1. **For the Good of the Order –** Dr. McLin requested that Faculty RSVP if they plan to fellowship with us at the Grab and Go Lunch on December 9th.
2. **Adjournment -** The meeting was adjourned at 10:52am.

Submitted January 25, 2022 by Dr. André Hines, Secretary