

## General Faculty Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2018

125 Butler-Carlton Hall, 4:00 P.M.

- I. Call-to-Order, Interim Chancellor Christopher G. Maples called the meeting of the General Faculty to order at 4:01 P.M.
- II. Interim Chancellor Maples recognized Professor Larry Gragg for the presentation of a memorial resolution in honor of Russell D. Buhite. It was moved that the memorial resolution be incorporated in the minutes of the faculty meeting with copies forwarded to family members. (See Attachment A).
- III. Interim Chancellor Maples called for approval of the minutes of the May 1, 2018 meeting. The minutes were approved as circulated.
- IV. There was no unfinished business
- V. Interim Chancellor Maples introduced the Officers of the General Faculty  
Interim Chancellor Christopher G. Maples  
President of Faculty Senate Michael Bruening  
Secretary Deanne Jackson  
Parliamentarian Richard Dawes
- VI. Reports of Standing and Special Committees – None
- VII. Introduction of New Faculty

Interim Chancellor Maples called on Provost Marley to introduce each vice provost and dean so they can introduce their new department chairs along with new faculty.

Dr. Marley introduced new faculty leaders

- Costas Tsatsoulis, Vice Chancellor of Research and Dean for Graduate Studies
- Angela Lueking, Associate Dean of Research for CEC
- Melanie Mormile, Interim Associate Dean of Research and External Relations for CASB
- Daniel Forciniti, Associate Provost of Faculty Affairs

Provost Marley asked vice provost and dean Richard Wlezien to introduce his new department chairs along with new faculty.

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering:

- Islam El-Adaway, Hurst/McCarthy Endowed Professor
- Guney Olgun, Assistant Professor
- Sanjay Tewari, Assistant Teaching Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering:

- Angela Lueking, Professor/Associate Dean of Research
- Monday Okoronkwo, Assistant Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Computer Science:

- Michael Gosnell, Assistant Teaching Professor

- Bruce McMillin, Interim Department Chair
- Sid Nadendla, Assistant Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering:

- Robert Woodley, Assistant Teaching Professor
- Jiangfan Zhang, Assistant Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering:

- Casey Canfield, Assistant Professor
- Benjamin Kwasa, Assistant Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Geosciences and Geological and Petroleum Engineering:

- Phillip Mulligan, Assistant Research Professor
- Ryan Smith, Assistant Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Materials Science & Engineering:

- Anthony Convertine, Roberta & G. Robert Couch Assistant Professor
- Greg Hilmas, Department Chair
- Kelley Wilkerson, Assistant Teaching Professor

Dr. Wlezien introduced from the department of Mining and Nuclear Engineering:

- Kwame Awuah-Offei, Interim Director of Mining Engineering
- Hyoung-Koo "Hank" Lee, Interim Director of Nuclear Engineering
- Taghi Sherizadeh, Assistant Professor

Provost Marley asked vice provost and dean Steven Roberts to introduce his new department chairs along with new faculty.

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Arts, Languages & Philosophy:

- Maria Emilia Barbosa, Assistant Professor
- Simon Bronner, Distinguished Visiting Professor
- Audrey Deterding, Assistant Teaching Professor
- Patrick Gamez, Assistant Professor
- Kendrea James, Assistant Teaching Professor

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Biological Sciences:

- Robin Verble, Associate Professor

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Chemistry:

- Rainer Glaser, Department Chair

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Economics:

- Radu Puslenghea, Assistant Teaching Professor

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of English and Technical Communications:

- Carleigh Davis, Assistant Professor

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of History and Political Sciences:

- Andrew Behrendt, Assistant Teaching Professor

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Physics:

- Marco Cavaglia, Professor

- Anh-Thu Le, Assistant Professor
- Thomas Vojta, Department Chair

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Psychological Sciences:

- Amy Belfi, Assistant Professor

Dr. Roberts introduced from the department of Teacher Education and Certification:

- Kelly Carter, Interim Department Chair

## VIII. New Business

Interim Chancellor Maples opened with praise for the Missouri S&T Experimental Mine faculty and staff for representing us well on the episode of *Ozzy and Jack's World Detour*. The filming was completed in March and aired on July 18 on the A&E Network. Dr. Catherine Johnson and Dr. Paul Worsley worked with the crew to film the explosions in and around the mine.

Next, Dr. Maples focused on our new faculty and welcoming all to campus. Our new faculty come to us from over 20 different Universities with a very diverse expertise of knowledge. He encouraged our new faculty to keep striving to do their best and reach out to our current faculty for help. There will be a new faculty meet-and-greet at the Chancellor's house on September 5, and new faculty are encouraged to attend.

Congratulations were given to Dr. Aleksandr Chernatynskiy and Dr. Amitava Choudhury who received a \$411,000 NSF grant to research all-solid state batteries and improve the way materials are invented. In addition, Dr. Risheng Wang received a \$350,000 NSF grant for designing DNA-assembled electronic circuits for the miniaturization of computers. During the presentation a picture of Dr. Wang, along with student Rachel Nixon, was displayed. Ms. Nixon is a junior and already published a paper in a peer-review journal thanks to her 10 week summer research program and scholarship fund established by an S&T Alumnus.

S&T has received \$1.7 million in federal support for our Nuclear Engineering program including Dr.'s Haiming Wen and Joseph Graham receiving \$800,000 DOE Nuclear Energy University Program grant. This will allow us to collaborate with investigators from the University of Idaho and Idaho National labs.

Dr. Supta Barua has received a \$25,000 Technology Acceleration Grant, with a \$10,000 grant from S&T's Innovation fund to develop a low-cost, portable kit to remove bacterial toxins from fluids.

Organizational Changes were discussed, such as closing of the Institutional Research and Assessment office; the Office of Global Learning's structure is also under review with report coming soon. Caprice Moore has been named as the acting vice provost of Global Learning. 31 positions of Educational Technology have transitioned to IT with 9 positions remaining in Global for now. The library structure is also under review with an interim director serving. The Office of Research, Sponsored Programs and Graduate Studies is under review. The two former departments of Sponsored Programs and Graduate Studies have combined with a newly hired vice chancellor of research and dean of graduate studies, Costas Tsatsoulis. Student Affairs recently closed the office of professional leadership and campus engagement and has reduced

staffing in Leach Theatre, and university advancement has closed their corporate relations office.

Pictures of recent renovations of 204 McNutt and Leach Theatre were displayed, and all were encouraged to take a look at the new seating. Leach renovations include new seating along with adding a center aisle, and the theater is now being used for classroom teaching.

It is a busy time of year now that students are back and classes are in session. Chancellor Maples wants to remind everyone about some upcoming events.

- September 5, New faculty reception
- September 11, Welcome reception for Dr. Costas Tsatsoulis
- September 14, "Excellence through Innovation" UM System address by President Mun Choi
- September 20-21, UM System Board of Curators meeting at UMKC
- September 28, S&T Board of Trustees meeting in St. Louis
- September 29, Celebration of Nations
- October 3, S&T State of the University address

#### A. Faculty Senate President's Report

Dr. Michael Bruening announced the new officers of faculty senate for AY 2017-2018.

President: Michael Bruening

Past President: Sahra Sedigh

President-Elect: Steve Corns

Secretary: Steve Raper

Parliamentarian: Richard Dawes

Dr. Bruening stated that the bylaw revisions will be a focus of the faculty senate this year. The committee members are: L. Acar, M. Bruening, M. Davis, W. Fahrenholtz, M. Schlesinger, T. Schuman, S. Sedigh, K. Swenson. The revisions will need to reflect that we now have deans.

Other Faculty Senate agenda items include the policy on department creation and realignment. Committee members include: S. Raper, L. Acar, N. Maerz, G. MacSithigh, J. Winiarz.

NTT Promotion has been referred to the Personnel committee. The policy needs to be revised to include deans, restructure the appeal process, and reconsider the composition of the campus committee.

Library renovations will be discussed in the Library and Learning Resources committee.

Course Evaluations will be discussed in the Effective Teaching committee including suggestions from IFC policy paper on evaluating teaching.

Finally the senate will continue to consider issues referred to it from the IFC (intercampus Faculty Council). Members include M. Bruening, S. Corns, S. Sedigh. The next IFC retreat is scheduled for September 10-11.

#### IX. Announcements – Dr. Audra Merfeld-Langston mentioned she has guests

visiting from Bolivia, and they will be giving a talk tomorrow. Audra encouraged faculty and staff to attend. Dr. Greg Gelles encouraged all to attend the Celebration of Nations event.

X. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 pm.

Deanne Jackson, Secretary

## Attachment A

### Memorial Resolution

Russell D. Buhite

Russell Buhite was born on July 19, 1938 in McCalmont Township, Jefferson County, Pennsylvania. He grew up on a dairy farm in west central Pennsylvania and attended high school in Punxsutawney. Upon graduation, Russ began his college years at nearby Clarion University. He only attended during the fall semesters because Russ had signed a contract to play minor league baseball with the New York Giants. Over a four-year period Russ played in the Giants, Orioles, and Senators organizations, but never realized his hopes of playing in the major leagues.

He married Mary Elizabeth London on August 23, 1959. "Buoyant sociability, optimism and conciliatoriness," Russ wrote about Mary, "are the essence of her being. If the Beatitudes are to be credited, she belongs among those who are to inherit the earth." They had three children-Russell, Ellen, and Michael.

Upon graduation from Clarion in 1961, Russ attended Ohio University, earning an M.A. in history a year later. Reluctantly forsaking baseball Russ went on to Michigan State University where he earned a Ph.D. in history in just three years while working under the highly regarded diplomatic historian Paul A. Varg. While Russ had job offers from several universities including Ball State, the University of Vermont, and the University of Nevada at Reno, he joined the History Department at the University of Oklahoma in 1965. Russ remained at Norman for twenty-five years, serving as Department Chair for a decade and Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for one year. In 1990, he became Department Head of History at the University of Tennessee. Seven years later, Russ became the Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Missouri-Rolla, a position he held for five years. He retired as professor of history in 2007. He died on May 27, 2018.

Russ was a highly regarded scholar on United States foreign policy with an emphasis upon developments in the twentieth century. He published seven monographs, four books of historical documents, and many articles and book chapters. He also gave numerous invited lectures, including ones at the National Archives, Pennsylvania State University, and the University of Genoa. A juror of the Pulitzer Prize Advisory Board nominated his book on Patrick J. Hurley, who served as Secretary of War between 1929 and 1933, for a Pulitzer Prize in Letters in 1974. Russ's last book, published in 2014, was *The Continental League: A Personal History*. It was a labor of love because it was part history and part memoir and wonderfully captures the effort in the late 1950s to establish a third Major League.

Russ was also an outstanding teacher, directing thirteen Ph.D. dissertations and nineteen M.A. theses. While at the University of Oklahoma, Russ received eight teaching awards, including a recognition from the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents in 1977.

As Dean of Arts and Sciences at UMR, Russ directed departments to establish clearer guidelines for tenure and promotion, established a Board of Visitors, worked closely with University Advancement to establish the Maxwell C. Weiner Visiting Distinguished Professor of

the Humanities position, provided start-up packages for new hires in the humanities and social sciences, and supported the addition of an M.S. in biological sciences.

Whether at the University of Oklahoma, the University of Tennessee, or at the University of Missouri-Rolla/S&T, what is most important to note about Russ was his character. His dear friend David Levy described Russ this way: "I knew Russ Buhite for more than half a century- first as my guide through the mysterious ways of academic life, then as a colleague, the chair of my department, a co-author, and a treasured and trusted friend. His academic life was characterized by a set of firmly held principles: hard work, high standards, conscientious and honest scholarship, absolute integrity in the positions of leadership he occupied over the years, an uncanny common sense that knew, instinctively, what was possible to accomplish in the real world and what was not. But what made him remarkable was that he was somehow able to combine these principles with kindness, concern for the problems of others, unassuming informality, unfailing courtesy, and consistent good humor. He was a decent and honorable man and his friends will remember him always with admiration and fondness."

The best measure of Russ is in a simple document that he left in his desk. Beyond stipulating that he wanted "no memorial service," Russ wrote, "If anyone wishes to honor me, he/she may do so by offering a kind word or helping hand to a friend, acquaintance, stranger, or colleague."

We request that this memorial resolution be incorporated into the official minutes of the Missouri University of Science and Technology General Faculty Meeting of September 4, 2018, and that a copy be sent to Dr. Buhite's wife Mary.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Gragg, Wayne Bledsoe, Leon Hall, John McManus, Donald Oster, and Jack Ridley