Faculty Senate Report to MAFS

Truman State University February 2009 Submitted by: Kathryn Brammall, Associate Professor of History

Important issues:

A number of issues continue to be of great interest and activity on our campus:

1. President and Board of Governors

- Darryl Krueger is the interim president and has been warmly received
- He is very active on a variety of fronts particularly take a proactive approach to university's (and state) current budget situation
- A search for a permanent replacement for our President has not yet commenced.

2. Academic Restructuring

- Now complete and FS has restructured (based on departmental representation) to accommodate new university structure
- Undergraduate Council has passed revised bylaws also, is populated using a modified proportional method, and the new council will meet for the first time 12 Feb 2009

3. Budget

- Like all Missouri (and possibly national) institutions, budget is first and foremost on our minds
- Situation remains fluid, but Budget Director believes we can absorb potential withholdings for the rest of the year
- Will have no concrete plans in place until state budget is finalized, but President does not want to plan on level funding (had meetings with legislators which suggests to do so might be naïve)
- Campus conversation on how to protect essential "Truman experience" in face of cuts is driving response of administration

4. Searches

- All searches, including that for Dean of the College of Arts & Science and Registrar, were cancelled in December
- Is word that College of Art & Science has been authorized to reinitialize 3 (of 15 originally approved) searches

5. Curriculum

- The Curriculum Commission presented its Phase II report which included 5
 potential models for curriculum revision; faculty and students are currently being
 surveyed
- Based on the results of the survey, Commission will produce its final report, hopefully by the end of the semester

6. Faculty Personnel Policy

- The Provost has taken over leadership of this initiative with goal of gaining some level of consistency in departmental documents and equity (though not necessarily equality) in standards
- 7. Intellectual Diversity and Consumer Information
 - consumer information vehicle was finalized and introduced last fall; results will be posted for campus community shortly