**2015-16 Faculty Senate Minutes**

**March 25, 2016**

**Island Hall 323**

**Present:**  Anderson, Araiza, Bland, Bruun, Day, Denny, Dolan, Griffith, Harrel, Katz, Klaus, Kownslar, Kutil, Loveland, Mollick, Ozymy, Spaniol, Starek, Thompson, Valadez

**Ex Officio and Guests:**  Quintanilla, Tatum, Shupala

**Absent:**  Flournoy

1. Speaker Griffith Call to order 2:05.

II Motion to approve the Meeting Agenda from the February meeting was made by Loveland and seconded by Kutil. Motion approved.

III Motion to approve Meeting Minutes. The motion was made by Loveland and seconded by Dolan. Motion approved. Senator Katz will send out copies of the minutes.

IV Guest Presentations: Terry Tatum – Budget and Financial Outlook

There are budgetary issues on the state level due to the decline in oil prices. This biennial cycle will not be adjusted but the next biennium budget will be affected. Several commitments for the next biennium will need to be funded during the next legislative session. These factors are leading to an outlook for tighter higher education budgets in the future. Because of these factors, TAMUCC is budgeting cautiously for FY 2017. Other challenges to the university include Hazelwood funding, decreased reserves, and decreased state funding. Student/faculty ratios have increased over 2010 ratios but have remained stable for the past three years. Senators would like to see this ratio divided out between graduate and undergraduate programs. Summer school revenues are an issue and there were senate questions and discussion about college performance and income for summer school.

V.Old Business - Rules and Procedures

* 1. Promotion of Full-Time Non-Tenured Faculty 12.907.99.C0.02 – Ozymy - Two major substantive changes since February. The first is a change to the minimum waiting period before reapplication for promotion. The senators recommended that exceeding requirements for evaluation items be based on a numerical. The senators recommended that letters from Chair and Dean be shared with the candidate and departments and the candidate may write a response letter to be added to the dossier. This recommendation is aimed at increasing transparency of the process and findings.

Faculty Affairs committee made a motion to approve procedure with changes and the motion was seconded by Spaniol. The motion was approved unanimously.

* 1. Tenure 12.01.99.C2– There are no major changes to the current version of the document since the last senate review and discussion. A wording change was mode from “exceeds requirements for all elements” to “a consistent level of exceeding requirements” on each item. For example, should a faculty candidate not exceed requirements every year for every item, they should not be penalized for this. The senators recommended that letters from Chair and Dean be shared with the candidate and departments and the candidate may write a response letter to be added to the dossier. This recommendation is aimed at increasing transparency of the process and findings.

Spaniol made a motion to approve the document with amendments as above and the motion was seconded by Thompson. The motion was approved unanimously.

* 1. Promotion of Full-Time Tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty 12.01.99.C1.01 - The senators recommended that letters from Chair and Dean be shared with the candidate and departments and the candidate may write a response letter to be added to the dossier. This recommendation is aimed at increasing transparency of the process and findings.

The Faculty Affairs committee chair Ozymy made a motion to approve procedure with changes and the motion was seconded by Spaniol. The motion was approved unanimously.

Anderson motion to extend meeting and Ozymy seconded. Motion approved.

1. New Business
2. Catalogue and Program Approvals – Academic Affairs submitted a summary of the committees graduate and undergraduate catalogue changes.
3. Graduate Changes
4. Academic Affairs chair, Ariaza, the motion is submitted to the senate to approve the graduate catalog changes (see attached) that were unanimously approved by the committee. Ozymy seconded the motion. There were discussion and questions by the whole senate. The motion was approved unanimously.
5. Masters in Psychology change in timing of the statistics course within the current program. Academic Affairs committee voted 4 to 2 to pass this change. Senate discussed issues around course work occurring after the comprehensive exams were completed. Academic Affairs chair, Ariaza, made a motion is submitted to the senate to approve the graduate catalogue changes for the College of Psychology Masters Program changes. Loveland seconded the motion. The motion was approved by 14 to 1 vote.
6. Masters in English changes to the catalogue. This request has been tabled until the next meeting.
7. Undergraduate Catalogue Changes
8. Academic Affairs chair, Ariaza made a motion to the senate to approve the submitted changes to the undergraduate catalogue changes (see attached) with all of the accepted and the ABD. Anderson seconded the motion. There was questions and discussion by senators. The motion was approved unanimously. Amendment to the motion that all pending documents requested by Academic Affairs Committee must be submitted to the committee.

Motion to extend the meeting until 5:00pm by Anderson, seconded by Ozymy. Motion approved.

1. Notice and Comment Items - Shupala submitted a spreadsheet to faculty for review documenting the progress of the senate documents reviewed this year.
2. Academic Calendar Changes – Provost – Faculty senate should receive a copy of the calendar for review prior to the calendar being approved by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The Provost explained some of the changes to the Academic Calendar for 2016-2017. The Provost requested that senators speak with their constituents about a Monday versus a Wednesday semester start date. Senators expressed concerns about the timing of the Calendars Committee meetings and the Provost encouraged consistent meeting dates/times for University committees and stressed the importance of assignment senators to these committees who are able to attend on the meeting dates/times.
3. Speaker’s Report – Thank you to the senate for their hard work this year.
4. Committee Reports
5. Academic Affairs – Araiza: eMBA tabled and they received new documents and will proceed with a review of the program at the next meeting. New issues – things that are on college web pages that were either not approved or changed. They are also seeing items in the catalogue that have not yet been approved.
6. Awards and Bylaws – Mollick: Faculty excellence awards recommendations were made to the Provost. The senate election process changes are more focused on fairness and inclusion.
7. Budget – Bland: Met with Terry Tatum and had a good discussion. He is going to provide additional information to the committee about several topics.
8. Committee on Committees – Katz: Faculty poll for committee preferences will be going out next week.
9. Faculty Affairs – Ozymy: No report

VII Provost Report – Quintanilla:

1. Chair and Dean’s Evaluations.
2. The Process Flow Chart for catalogue and course revisions
3. Student Evaluations – Apologized for the problems with Fall Student Evaluation of Faculty and courses.
4. A new position have been approved Ombudsman for faculty.
5. Schedule of classes is under revisions.
6. Two position postings – Paul Meyer is retiring in June. Vice Provost will be replaced by an Associate Vice-President position. This change is budget neutral.
7. The Department of Undergraduate Studies chair will replace core curriculum coordinator. Those duties along with other responsibility BAAS University studies, honors will be the responsibility of the new chair.
8. The Deans evaluations have now been sent out to faculty
9. Chairs evaluations will be sent out April 4.

VIII Good of the Order:

Next Meeting April 15

Motion to Adjourn by Mollick and seconded by Dolan Meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.