Faculty Senate Meeting

November 10, 2017

2-4 p.m.

Island Hall 323

Minutes

Senators Attending: Acker, Blalock, Comparini, Day, Harrel, Klaus, Kownslar, Loveland, Martinez, Mollick, Moreno, Murgulet, Reinhardt (Kimberly), Reinhardt (Mark), Shope, Simionescu, Smith, Spaniol, Valadez, Watson, Withers

Ex-Officio and Guests Attending: Amy Aldridge Sanford, Debra Cortinas, Kevin Houlihan, Andy Piker, Ben Soto

1. Call to Order: Spaniol called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda: Moreno made a motion to approve the agenda. Loveland seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes (10/13/2017): Loveland made a motion to approve the minutes. Withers seconded. During discussion, Moreno pointed out the correct spelling for Qualtrics in Section 6.d. of the minutes. The corrections will be made to the final version. Minutes were approved with 2 abstentions.

4. Guest Speaker: Debra Cortinas, Director of Human Resources, presented “Workday,” which is a cloud-based system that will replace many of the legacy systems. Workday will roll out on December 17, and HR will provide training. Cortinas also reviewed a handout about the changes in the Extended Pay Plan, which will become the “Save for Summer” program. She also answered questions about insurance deductions. Cortinas will send answers to several of the questions back to the senate, and she will also update the FAQ page.

5. Speaker’s Report: (1) Spaniol thanked all of the committee for their work. He also reminded everyone that most of the work should be done at the committee meetings. (2) Spaniol recently attended the Texas Council of Faculty Senates meeting in Austin. They discussed faculty governance based on the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) model. The situation with other campuses varied, but TAMU-CC is doing well with faculty governance. The senate has a constitution and bylaws for protection. The Board of Regents and the state legislators do not always understand what the faculty do on their campuses, and faculty members should do a better job marketing their activities. Spaniol also encouraged the senators to watch the “Starving the Beast” documentary, which is available in the library’s Kanopy database. (3) Spaniol has received some concerns from faculty members, and he has followed up on each one. However, he encouraged senators to prepare brief updates to send their representative bodies about senate activities. He will also discuss this issue with the senate’s executive committee. (4) Provost’s Search Committee: the committee will re-convene after the last candidate interviews on campus. He encouraged everyone to reply to the surveys about each candidate. (5) President’s meeting: Dr. Quintanilla has finalized the roster of the merit and equity task force, which will include six current senators and three past speakers. The committee will start meeting soon. Second, university administration is working with SSC to improve the appearance of the campus. (6) After some discussion in senate about the campus appearance, Spaniol agreed to check on the locations of the cigarette disposal containers; there are fewer containers on campus, and people are throwing their cigarettes on the grounds. (7) Open Education Resource (OED) task force: Spaniol has appointed a senate representative. (8) Loveland has finished the faculty survey, which will be sent out soon. She should have replies before the next senate meeting. Spaniol thanked Loveland for working on the survey. (9) Student pictures on the online class rosters: Ben Soto reported that Ed Evans is working on this issue. There will be an upgrade to Banner in the spring, and campus IT should be able to add pictures with that upgrade. However, adding photos will probably not happen during the spring.

6. Old Business (Faculty Affairs): Harrel reported that the revised version of the Faculty Development Leave Policy is available for the senate to review. She asked the senators to send her comments by November 24.

7. Committee Reports

a. Academic Affairs (Valadez): (1) The committee has between 200 and 300 items to read and revise. The senate should be able to view and comment on all of these items. Debbie Linares from Academic Affairs will provide access to Curriculog for any senators who would like to view them. The deadline for comments will be November 28. (2) The University Curriculum Committee will have its first meeting on February 2. (3) Valadez provided a spreadsheet of proposed curricular changes for a senate vote. The votes are included below.

Changes in courses from the College of Education and Human Development: approved unanimously.

Changes in courses from the College of Liberal Arts: approved with 1 abstention except for the proposal for CRIJ 4085. After senate discussion, Valadez withdrew the proposal for CRIJ 4085 and will send it back to committee.

Changes in courses from the College of Business: approved unanimously.

Course additions from the College of Liberal Arts: approved with 1 abstention.

 Program addition of Dance Certificate and Dance Minor: approved with 1 abstention.

b. Faculty Affairs (Harrel): (1) The committee has put up three policies for Senate review:

31.03.05.C0.01: Parental Leave

34.07.01.C0.02: Academic Continuity Plan

26.01.01.C0.01: Tuition and Fees

The committee will accept comments until November 24.

(2) The FA Committee presented the Export Control Policy for a Senate vote. There were no recommendations for change. The policy was unanimously approved.

c. Committee on Committees: Smith met with the university’s Committee on Committees, and they told him that TAMU-CC is 2-3 years behind on assessing their committees and councils according to SACS criteria. The university’s Committee on Committee will send out self-studies to six of the committees and councils this year, including the Faculty Senate. At this point, the senate will not be able to discuss expanding involvement of librarians and the DUGS faculty members on the university committees.

d. Awards, Bylaws and Elections Committee (Mollick): (1) The committee has sent their recommendation for the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation Award to the Provost. (2) The announcements about the university’s six excellence awards has been sent out, and nominations are encouraged. Mollick explained the awards process to the senate.

e. Budget Analysis: Spaniol reported that Tim Klaus will replace Eugene Bland as the chair. Moreno added that the committee’s priority for this year will involve supporting the merit task force.

8. Liaison Reports: (1) Instructional Technology and Distance Education Committee: Loveland reported that ITDEC will conduct a workshop on Blackboard GradeCenter on November 17. (2) Council of Principal Investigators and Research Administrators: Withers has submitted her report to the faculty senate. CPIRA is deciding whether to use Qualtrics or REDCap to conduct surveys. She and Dr. Moreno encouraged feedback on comparing these two resources. Withers also reported that the candidates for the campus compliance officer interviewed on campus, and the search committee will make a recommendation. Moreno added that there has been a lot of instability and turnover with the IRB, and there has been a large backlog of IRB protocols to review and approve. Students need to graduate but need IRB approval. The senate should be an advocate for students on this issue. Spaniol will follow up with university administration about this issue.

9. Provost’s Comments: Dr. Guffy was not able to attend the senate meeting because he was working with the search committee for the Vice President of Marketing position.

10. For the Good of the Order: (1) Loveland and K. Reinhardt received the university’s Outstanding Online Educators Award. (2) The mixer for Faculty Senate, Center for Faculty Excellence and Staff Council is scheduled for December 7 at The Flock on Ennis-Joslin. (3) Laura Marino will be leaving the university on December 22. The senate thanked her for her service.

11. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Submitted by Edward Kownslar, Faculty Senate Secretary.