Faculty Senate Meeting

February 16, 2018

Island Hall 323

Minutes

Attending: Acker, Blalock, Britt, Comparini, Crocker, Day, Harrel, Klaus, Kownslar, Loveland, Martinez, McCullough, Moreno, Murgulet, M. Reinhardt, Simionescu, Smith, Spaniol, Watson, Withers

Ex-Officio and Guests: Amy Aldridge Sanford, Ed Evans, Ted Guffy, Roneka Polidore and Ben Soto.

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

2. Approval of Agenda: Smith made a motion to approve. Acker seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. Approval of January Meeting Minutes: Withers made a motion to approve. Acker seconded. Approved unanimously.

4. Guest Speaker: Ed Evans provided several updates: (1) He reviewed the updates to TAMU System Security Regulation 29.01.03 and other information security guidelines. (2) Campus email will be moved to Duo authentication on March 26. (3) He reviewed the features of Syncplicity.

5. Speaker’s Report: (1) Miguel Moreno is the parliamentarian for today’s meeting. (2) Sean Britt is the new senate representative from the Department of Undergraduate Studies. Sean is replacing Elizabeth Shope, who has resigned from senate; he will serve the remainder of Shope’s term, and he will be eligible to run for a new term afterwards. (3) Roneka Polidore has updated the senate’s web site, and a column has been added for terms. Senators can run for two successive terms. (4) Spaniol reminded everyone that the next meeting is scheduled for March 9. (5) The merit and equity task force submitted their recommendations to President Quintanilla, who will run the numbers before deciding. Spaniol said that he had good feelings from the conversations with Quintanilla. (6) The president’s investiture is scheduled for March 2. (7) Spaniol thanked Loveland for putting in a lot of time with the faculty survey. He and Loveland explained the comments and results to the senate. (8) The University Curriculum Committee had their first meeting on 2/2/2018, and it was led by the Academic Affairs Chair and the members of the AA Committee. Spaniol and Loveland explained the dual roles of the AA Committee members on the UCC and the process.

6. Old Business: None.

7. Committee Reports

A. Academic Affairs: Blalock reported on behalf of Valadez. The committee presented two certificate programs for senate approval. Both were approved unanimously.

B. Faculty Affairs: Harrel explained the revisions to the service animal policy, and Kevin Houlihan’s comments were helpful. The document is notice and comment and does not require approval from Faculty Senate.

C. Committee on Committees: (1) Smith reported that the committee has completed the survey and will send it to Katharine Mason to distribute it to the faculty. People who reply will be eligible for a gift card to Starbuck’s. The committee will give faculty members one month to reply, and they will try to make appointments no later than the end of April. (2) The university’s Committee on Committees is reviewing the committees and councils.

D. Awards, Bylaws and Elections: McCullough reported on behalf of Mollick. She said that the committee is preparing for the elections and is reviewing the nominations for the excellence awards.

E. Budget Analysis: (1) Klaus reported that the committee reviewed the faculty survey comments about budgets and salaries. Other issues include summer school and the availability of graduate assistants. (2) The committee hopes to meet with Terry Tatum soon.

8. Liaison Reports:

A. ODELT (Loveland): The committee conducted a workshop on Blackboard Ultra.

B. CPIRA: (1) Withers and Moreno reported that the new compliance director is Rebecca Ballard, and she is hiring a new coordinator. There is a large backlog to clear out. Dr.Mahdi will chair a compliance task force to help Ballard and other officers. (2) CPIRA will be using Red Hat software. (3) There will be a research forum on April 12. (4) There will be elections for CPIRA soon.

C. Graduate Council (Spaniol): The committee reviewed the new procedures from the University Curriculum Committee.

D. Staff Council (Spaniol): The group is working on a lot of Presidential Investiture activities.

8. Provost’s Comments (Guffy): (1) The state legislature has extended the Hazlewood Act benefits to families. The act cost the university more than $7.5 million last year. (2) Four vice-presidential positions have been filled. The Vice President for Marketing and Communications position was filled in January but is vacant again. (3) The new Provost will start on March 1. Guffy will stay until March 9.

9. For the Good of the Order: (1) There were discussions and concerns about campus security. Guffy asked everyone to email him those issues, and he will forward them to President Quintanilla and Terry Tatum. (2) Spaniol attended the Honors Banquet associated with Homecoming. (3) Spaniol thanked everyone for their work. (4) The senate thanked Dr. Guffy for his service.

10. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

Submitted by Edward Kownslar, Faculty Senate Secretary