

Faculty Senate Retreat

August 18, 2020 – WebEx

Minutes

Attendance:

Senator	Present	Senator	Present
Ross Bernhardt	X	Kyoung (Kellie) Lee	X
Kelli Bippert	X	Elizabeth Loika	X
Randy Bonnette	X	Mark McNamara	X
Sean Britt	X	Emily Metcalf	X
Chuleeporn (Nikki) Changchit	X	Miguel Moreno	X
Lisa Comparini	X	Dorina Murgulet	X
Liana Davis	X	Bethanie Pletcher	X
Shelley Dinkens	X	Pablo Rangel	X
Dave Edwards	X	Mohan Rao	X
Pam Greene	X	Michael Starek	X
Patricia Hernandez	X	Abu Waheeduzzaman	X
Philip Johnson	X	Quihong Zhao	X

Administrative Assistant La Niece Tucker:	X
--	---

Ex-Officio and Guests: N/A

Call to Order: Speaker Moreno called the meeting to order at 11:31 am

1. Welcome and Speaker's Report :

- The meeting with President Miller and a meeting with the Provost was initially delayed to allow time to compile results from the Faculty/Staff Forum. Now, following up regarding scheduling of the meetings.
- Talking points from the speaker can be requested for presentations in colleges.

2. Parliamentary Procedures & Review of Robert's Rules :

- Senator Changchit presented a PPT and overview of the processes used as a structure for conducting efficient, effective meetings.
- Speaker Moreno reviewed the process related to voting. The issues or item needs to be introduced in a meeting prior to calling for a vote at the next meeting. This typically allows one month for senators to gather input from their respective constituents.

Faculty Senate Retreat

August 18, 2020 – WebEx

Minutes

3. New Business:

- Speaker Moreno indicated the intent to invite Jaclyn Mahlman, VP for Finance & Administration as a guest speaker. There is a University Budget Committee and it is important to insure keeping faculty jobs is of the highest priority.

4. Committees:

- Committees broke into separate virtual meetings for the purpose of generating initial plans for the upcoming year, goals, and identifying immediate actions needed then reconvened.
- Academic Affairs (AA) Senator Britt:
 - The committee is scheduled to review the proposed technology (Courseleaf) as a replacement for Curriculog. In this process, a possible timeline for implementation will be addressed.
 - Proposals to review: A plan for prioritization of proposal review should be ready at the end of the week.
 - Recommended sending a reminder of submission deadlines for proposals to all faculty.
- Faculty Affairs (FA) Senator Comparini:
 - Procedures reviewed: Policies under review are in the I-drive with comments from Faculty Affairs.
 - At times there may be a need for an expedited review. That process was reviewed.
 - The university policies cannot contradict system policies.
 - Policies are presented by (FA) in preparation for voting in the following meeting of the Faculty Senate (FS). FA will review before the next (FS) meeting and provide suggestions and comments to the FS. At the full FS meeting, senators will hear the input from FA and discuss, raise questions and/or concerns before calling for a vote.
 - There was a discussion about 32.01.01.C0.01 Complaint and Appeal Process for Faculty Members (Revised April 2020) and the process for requesting to have a “re-visiting” or re-review with the full FS in session due to concerns regarding whether the process does or does not facilitate a fair process for faculty.
 - 12.99.01.C0.01 Faculty Development Leave – due for review.
 - 31.05.01.C1 Faculty Consulting, External Professional Employment, and Conflict of Interest – there is a form used for approval that needs to be reviewed.
 - Post Doc. Research Associate: There is a need to clarify the role of HR in hiring an termination. Need input from CPIRA to gather recent information from the research community regarding their experiences.

Faculty Senate Retreat

August 18, 2020 – WebEx

Minutes

- Awards, Bylaws, & Elections (ABE) – Senator Pletcher
 - Calendar set up for Awards & Elections
 - First Year Advocate Award not yet posted
 - Piper Award not yet posted
 - Faculty Excellence Award is expected mid-October

- Budget – Senator Murgulet
 - Goal: Push for transparency from university administration. Expect monthlmeetings with the VP for Finance & Administration, Jaclyn Mahlman with an emphasis on understanding what decisions are pending. Meeting request has been sent. The aim of FS is a non-adversarial relationship allowing for information and feedback exchange. Budget committee members have expertise that could be leveraged by the university.
 - The Provost has committed to the \$5,000 tuition program for graduate students.
 - Concern related to the level of commitment to the ongoing implementation of the six-year equity plan. Need confirmation of the commitment to that plan.

- Committee on Committees – Senator Metcalf
 - This committee did not meet during the breakout due to competing demands.
 - Spring semester a survey was distributed to faculty for gathering interests in committees, counsels, and task forces. Results were used to make recommendations regarding appointments. It is likely more sporadic appointments will be needed this academic year.
 - Goal – establish a workflow document for continuity from year to year.

- Expressive Activities – Senator Dinkens
 - There is concern about upcoming elections. Dr. Aldridge-Sandfer is positive. There will be education awareness for students to address the need/expectations for respect given the context of tensions across the U.S. This education opportunity will include cyber bullying and other issues associated with social media.
 - September 17 is “Constitution Day” and the university is required to celebrate this event as part of the obligations related to being a recipient of federal funds.

5. For the Good of the Order:

- Speaker Moreno announced: Claire Snyder, from President Miller’s office has indicated a video will be coming early in the Fall semester and sent to all faculty and staff to replace the President’s meeting used to begin the semester.
- A question was raised regarding the letter endorsed by FS. Senator Davis reported the letter was sent to A&M Chancellor Sharp and each member of the Board or Regents. To date, no response has been received. If a response comes, it will be shared. There were over 900 signatures. Approximately 1/3 were from the Corpus Christi area.

6. Adjourn: Senator Metcalf moved to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at

Faculty Senate Retreat

August 18, 2020 – WebEx

Minutes