Faculty Senate Meeting

Feb 10, 2023

UC Bayview 320

1. Meeting was called to order @ 1407
2. Attendance: see table

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Senators** | **Apr 22** | **Aug 26** | **Sept 16** | **Oct 14** | **Nov 18** | **Dec 9** | **Jan 20** | **Feb 10** | **Mar 10** | **Senators** | **Apr 22** | **Aug 26** | **Sept 16** | **Oct 14** | **Nov 18** | **Dec 9** | **Jan 20** | **Feb 10** | **Mar 10** |
| Mohamed Ahmed (COS) | a | a |  | X? | x | 0 | x | x |  | Catherine Harrel  (CONHS) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |  |
| Dr. Rosie Banda (COEHD) | X | x | x | x | 0 | x | x | x |  | Dr. Robin Johnson | X | x | a | x | x | x | x | 0 |  |
| Dr. Ross Bernhardt (CLA) | X | x | x | x | 0 | x | 0 | 0 |  | Mr. Kevin Loeffler (CLA) | X | x | x | x | a | x | x | x |  |
| Dr. Kelli Bippert (COEHD) | X | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x |  | Dr. Mark McNamara (CLA) | X | x | x | a | x | x | x | x |  |
| Dr. Isla Schuchs Carr (CLA) | 0 | x | x | a | x | x | x | x |  | Dr. Antonio Medrano (COE) | 0 | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x |  |
| Dr. Celil Ekici (COS) | X | x | x |  | x | x | x | 0 |  | Dr. Valeriu Murgulet (COS) | X | 0 | x | x | x | x | x | x |  |
| Dr. Deniz Gevrek (COB) | X | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x |  | Dr. Dale Pattison (CLA) | X | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |  |
| Dr. Michelle Hollenbaugh | X | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |  | Dr. Miguel Perez (CONHS) | X | x | x | x | x | 0 | x | x |  |
| Dr. Marge Benham Hutchins (CONHS) | X | x | x | x | x | x | 0 | 0 |  | Dr. Mohan Rao (COB) | X | x | x | x | a | x | x | x |  |
| Dr. Rabih Zeidan  (COB – new Sept) | na | na | x | 0 | x | x | x | x |  | Dr. Qiuhong Zhao (COB) | 0 | x | x | x | 0 | ? | 0 | x |  |
| Jennifer Anderson (Library – new Sept) | na | na | x | x | 0 | x | X | x |  | Alexia Hight (Library-new Sept) | na | na | x | x | 0 | x | x | x |  |
| Tianxing Ching Chu (COE- new Oct) | na | na | na | x | x | A? | x | x |  | Lucy Huang (COE – new October) | na | na | na | x | x | ? | x | x |  |
| George Tintera (COS) | na | na | na | x | x | x | x | x |  | Aref Mazoum (COE-new Oct) | na | na | na | x | x | x | ? | x |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Leigh Shaver (CONHS) | na | na | na | na | na | na | x | x |  |

Other: Dr Clarenda Phillips, Kevin Houlihan, Dr Scott Johnson, Dr Steven Seidel, Dr Alexandra Janney, Dr Susan Wolfe Murphey

1. Agenda: Motion to approve Agenda by Senator Rao, second by Senator Medrano
   1. Approved unanimously
2. Approval of Jan minutes: motion with edits Senator Rao, second Senator Medrano
   1. approved; No opposed,
3. Guest: I-SPEAK Team; Aleyda Cantu-Lee, DLAI
   1. Two GA’s to inform Senate about what I Speak offers
      1. Grant funded, offered every semester, usually once a month
      2. Suicide prevention – QPR (Questions, Persuade, Refer) – for all staff, students – in person training, flyer distributed; next session is Feb 24, goes approx. 1.5 hours
      3. Kognito – for students, video game like, online program, faculty can also complete this - gives similar ideas – what questions, how to persuade and refer; need at least an hour to complete; can do it in class or offer via BB, offers a certificate if you want students to complete on their own
      4. Request flyer sent to Speaker who will distribute to all senators
      5. March 5 @ 10 am – walk for suicide prevention
   2. DLAI – Dr Janney & Dr Cantu-Lee
      1. LMS review – List of LMS review team & timeline distributed; currently in Sandbox stage for Bright Space, Canvas, BB Ultra– each week testing a different LMS, just finished Bright Space review; last semester did demonstrations: LMS demonstrations -81% picked Bright Space, 80% thought Bright Space a good fit for TAMUSS; it appears so far that these numbers do not correlate with the actual experiences so far… more to come
      2. Goals is feedback by end of Feb, Mid March recommendation from team
      3. Q&A – faculty can request receiving a sandbox or demo view; DLAI will share more info with Senate
      4. Upcoming events & opportunities- have new ID (March1); listed on flyer – Digital Innovator of Year – Faculty Choice Award open Feb 20-March 6 & also Online Coure Redesign program -applications close Feb 17…both have stipends attached
4. Speaker’s Report – Speaker Hollenbaugh
   1. Pres Miller feedback form Senate meeting very positive, slides sent out; discussed CUPA data and how raise is calculated so that possibly when NOA comes out it would include salary information
   2. Search Committee Updates
      1. Still no admin for staff council/senate – hoping for GA position
      2. CDO – search committee has 43 applicants, meeting early March
      3. IRB coordinator open now
   3. 360 evals – still working on drafting information
   4. Shirts ordered
5. Old Business
   1. President Miller/Service Excellence
      1. Suggesting Qualtrics link on website that would ask for suggestions on service excellence ideas – questions, concerns, praise, FA offering to set this up on Senate page for now and collect data
6. Committee Reports
   1. Academic Affairs – Senator Johnson, Chair
      1. Meeting to approve proposals/changes on Feb 16
   2. Awards, Bylaws, & Elections (ABE) – Senator Dinkens, Chair
      1. Feb 17 – Fac excellence award packets due @ noon
      2. Also working on calendar
   3. Budget Analysis – Senator Ekici, Chair
      1. No new updates
   4. Committee on Committees – Senator Pattison, Chair
      1. Faculty interest survey going out Feb 27
      2. Have been in touch with Associate Deans & Dept chairs to facilitate communication for survey completion by faculty
      3. Will monitor progress during 2-week window the survey is open, hoping to boost participation from previous years
   5. Faculty Affairs – Senator Schuchs Carr, Chair

Presented the following three procedures for full Faculty Senate approval: approved by unanimous vote

31.03.05.C0.01, Parental Leave

41.01.01.C0.01, Use of University Facilities

31.03.02.C0.01, Sick Leave

All three of these procedures were introduced and shared in the last Faculty Senate meeting on 01/20/2023 and have since been reviewed, revised, and approved (unanimous approval on 02/09/2023) by Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee. The final approved versions of these three procedures and a synopsis of the changes (Synopsis of Changes 02-08-2023) made or reviewed by the Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs Committee were sent to Faculty Senate Speaker Michelle Hollenbaugh to distribute. In addition, the three minor changes and two comments we made on those procedures—all summarized in the Synopsis of Changes 02-08-2023 document—I am following up with the new TAMU-CC Chief Human Resources Officer Jacquelyn Flowers, regarding the committee’s concern (noted in the included discussion on the Parental Leave procedure) about including miscarriages under bereavement, as well as under Sick Leave at the discretion of the employee. Update received from admin – miscarriage would count as bereavement and sick leave could also be utilized.

Introducing for review: (also sent out for Faculty Senate distribution, FA will meet Feb 22 and will resent at next Senate meeting)

07.03.01.C1, Political Campaign Events in University Facilities

09.02.01.C1, Official University Messaging

21.99.04.C1, Disposition of Abandoned and Unclaimed Personal Property

* *07.03.01.C1, Political Campaign Events in University Facilities*
  + *Section 4 added to address campaign signage on campus during voting*
* *09.02.01.C1, Official University Messaging*
  + *Section 7 added to include texting as a form of official messaging*
  + *More details are being included in an internal guidelines document that is currently under development in MarCom*
* *21.99.04.C1, Disposition of Abandoned and Unclaimed Personal Property*
  + *Section 1.2 added to include the academic unit policies on abandoned faculty property (already in the unit handbooks; just aligning the rule language)*

1. Liaison Reports
   1. CPIRA – Kelli Bippert
      1. No updates
   2. Graduate Council – Isla Schuchs Carr

The Graduate Council met for the first time this semester yesterday, on February 9th, at 1 PM via Zoom. The next meeting will be March 9th at 1 PM, also via Zoom, but I will not be able to attend that meeting as I am out of town for a conference March 8-10th. At the February 9th meeting, College of Graduate Studies Dean Dr. Karen McCaleb discussed the upcoming Pathways Conference (March 2-3), Graduate Student Appreciation Week (first week of April—I think April 3-7th), and other opportunities for graduate students such as the return of the Three-Minute Thesis competition.  I tried checking the College of Graduate Studies calendar of events, but it does not look like their website has been update for Spring Semester yet. Once the meeting minutes are available I will send that information out in my next report or in an email if any of the deadlines or dates occur between now and the March 10th meeting. Dr. Marvarene Oliver emphasized the importance of getting any graduate students we are teaching to understand the process that needs to occur after a thesis or dissertation defense, and she is working with faculty to provide training related to this. Dr. Corinne Valadez gave the Curriculum Committee report and asked for an extension till next meeting to give a more detailed report as the committee is having difficulty getting all the proposals reviewed before the next deadline. She said there have been a lot of late requests for review and they simply cannot accept any later proposals. Dr. Tammy McGarity gave the Rules and Procedures report and called for a vote on several graduate faculty applications. Deadlines for graduate faculty applications were also discussed as well as the procedures for faculty hired after the Spring deadline, such as faculty hired during the summer months. Dean of University Libraries Dr. Catherine Rudowsky gave a report on the downtown TAMU-CC building and addressed an issue related to Inter Library Loan requests raised by a faculty member. The person in the ILL position is new, and if you had issues with a request for a scan of materials existing in the library collection, that was a miscommunication and should not be an issue moving forward.

* 1. Staff Council – Alexandra Janney
     1. Elections coming up
     2. No update on assistant
  2. Digital Learning
     1. New IT Director welcomed, currently gathering information for strategic plan
     2. How would we like information to be gathered? maybe Qualtrics, other methods?
  3. AAUP – Scott Johnson representing Kelly
     1. AAUP flyer distributed with links for inforamtion on current issues
     2. Will see personal emails from Scott & Kelly – since cannot advocate as state employees – all faculty in the same positions – as state employees email requestable; there are things we can do as individuals to advocate for these issues
     3. Move to ban DEI or use of state funds for DEI person, DEI no longer legal in state institutions per Gov – concern that will diminish our applicant pool for Chief DEI person
     4. Lt Gov Dan Patrick s agenda includes moving forward to eliminate tenure – so stay abreast of news
     5. Bill s coming up advocating for community colleges to offer BA’s and also bills specifying Texas history courses
     6. Multi front effort being worked on by AAUP
     7. AAUP will keep close eye on these issue in leg session
     8. Be on lookout for dates of chapter meetings
     9. Discussed clarification for website posting of Senate resolution on Promotion & Tenure
     10. Currently is a Senate resolution on website that supports DEI & academic freedom & tenure
     11. Multiple ways to engage, we don’t all have to do it the same way; there is work behind the scenes to challenge these items and feeling by some that its best not to fuel the flame until it actually gets to committee

1. Provosts Comments
   1. Thanks to those who attended spotlight on Student Success, more info to come
   2. Symposium for Student research & Creative Activity – Apr 21, deadline Feb 17 is deadline to submit proposals; also need faculty evaluators
   3. IRB reset – reports IRB process is not as arduous, if that is not your experience please reach out to Michael Salido
   4. AI – Chat-GPT – CFE will do workshop in March – its a tool that is here, how do we help students use the tool and understand that critical thinking is still necessary
      1. SEAS workshop – assignment where outside resources not allowed – using ChatGPT would be cheating not plagiarism
      2. Faculty can clarify in syllabus that student may not use AI
   5. Board of Regents – affordability for tuition & fees, books & supplies; encourage use of OER; Mental health services – 2 Universities trialing using outside entities for MHS; also focus on advising
   6. Legislative agenda- system schools included as priorities for funding for Hazelwood Legacy; regional universities asking for recognition for serving students other than top 5-10% - regional university fund – also asking for flexibility in how to use it; also asking for adjusting funding in response to inflation; healthcare funding – asking to fund health care @ 100% in alignment of funding to other state employees; Tenure & DEI on everyone’s mind; Senate Finance Committee record – Chancellor Sharp says our tenure review process is very effective, grant about 60%
   7. Academic Affairs panel March 22 @ 10 am in UC– theme presentation, then open floor for Q&A, trying to find ways to improve communication
   8. CUPA data – suggest – for faculty in process currently, COPA data running for those faculty – could pull all code data and send info to deans so faculty would have information in making decisions; currently using CIP codes to pull data; discussion ensued CIP codes and how to find out what code faculty has been assigned
   9. Homecoming – end of month – Faculty staff versus students game - Provost coaching, Senator Pattison playing – encourage all faculty & staff to participate
   10. Happy Friday!
2. New Business
   1. none
3. For the good of the order
   1. Land use syllabi statement elicited good response
4. Motion for adjournment: Senator Rao, Second by: Senator Medrano, all approved. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Cathy Harrel

Secretary Faculty Senate

**Faculty Senate Committee Members**:

**Academic Affairs**

* Deniz Gevrek (COB)
* Kevin Loeffler (CLA)
* Mark McNamara (CLA)
* Robin Johnson (COEHD) - chair
* Marge Benham Hutchins (CONHS)
* Valeriu Murgulet (COSE)

**Awards/Bylaws/Elections**

* Ross Bernhardt (CLA)
* Leigh Shaver (CONHS)
* Kelli Bippert (COEHD) – Chair
* George Tintera

**Budget Analysis**

* Mohan Rao (COB)
* Miguel Perez (CONHS)
* Rabih Zeidan (COB)
* Celil Ekici (COSE) – chair

**Committee on Committees**

* Dale Pattison (CLA) – chair
* Antonio Medrano (COSE)
* Kelli Bippert (COEHD)

**Faculty Affairs**

* Qiuhong Zhao (COB)
* Isla Schuchs Carr (CLA) - chair
* Rosie Banda (COEHD)
* Catherine Harrel (CONHS)
* Mohamed Ahmed (COSE)