

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, April 5, 2017
JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Attending

Senators: Bahram Asiabanpour, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Scott Bowman, Michel Conroy, Lynn Ledbetter, Ting Liu, Vincent Luizzi, Shirley Ogletree, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Vivek Shah, Shane Smith

Administrators: Provost Eugene Bourgeois, Associate VP (Enrollment Management) Gary Ray

Guests: Marcus Hendry (HHP), Selene Hinojosa (Library), Thomas Grimes (Mass Communication), Katie Burrell (*University Star*)

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by Senate Chair Conroy

President's Academic Advisory Group (PAAG)

- Legislative update: Bills under consideration
 - Senate Bill 19 – provides for tuition freeze combined with outcomes on 11 performance-based metrics
 - If metrics are met, tuition will be allowed to increase with board approval at the rate of inflation + 1%
 - Texas State is confident about meeting or exceeding these metrics
 - House is not as inclined to support tuition freeze and cap
 - Senate Bill 18 – Eliminates provisions requiring public universities to set aside tuition for student financial assistance
 - In 2015, Texas State awarded \$24.7 million to 12,624 students with an average award of \$2,000.00
- Enrollment and the need for space and resources
 - President Trauth is asking the cabinet to think about possible strategies to absorb possible budget cuts while maintaining current programs and staffing levels
 - Some possibilities include delaying computer refresh cycle, renegotiating contracted services, less money for travel, delayed hiring, etc.
 - Texas State is one of the most efficient institutions among over 100+ peer institutions in filling seats in classrooms
 - Suggestion for departments to begin scheduling more MWF 8:00 and 9:00 classes, 5:00 and 6:30 classes
 - There are between 700 and 800 class periods in buildings all across campus that are not being utilized
 - AVPEM Gary Ray indicated there will be an alert when a student registers for consecutive classes that require more than the standard 10-minute passing time
 - Non-standard class times need approval by the Class Scheduling Committee
- Faculty input for evaluation of selected administrators across divisions
 - RTA for May 3 PAAG
- Campus safety issues indoors
 - No plans to increase number of security cameras
 - Security cameras are typically placed outside of exterior doors and close to elevators
 - Increased patrols include indoors
 - Jowers is a mixed use facility and security is challenged when users prop open outside doors
 - 20 incidents of vandalism at Jowers since January 2017, with requests for inside security cameras being denied
- Other

- Since becoming an Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)/Minority Serving Institution (MSI), Texas State has been awarded \$22 million with \$1 million being used for purchase of equipment and the rest used for recruiting, enrolling, and ensuring success of these students
- Guest speaker Angela Davis raised questions regarding percentage of African American faculty at Texas State
- Janet Bezner received the Catherine Worthingham Fellows Award from the American Physical Therapy Association

PAAG follow-up

There was discussion regarding the topic of faculty input for evaluation of administrators in divisions that impact faculty and curriculum delivery, e.g. Information Technology and Finance and Support Services.

April FS Bulletin

Discussion of content for April FS Bulletin with request to add information about Greencat Challenge

Policies to review

- UPPS 01.04.31 Access to Student Records, April 7 (Senator Bowman)
- UPPS 02.05.01 University Scholarship Policy, April 11 (Senator Liu)

Faculty Senate Election

- Candidates for election to Faculty Senate for McCoy College of Business Administration, College of Education, College of Fine Arts and Communication, College of Applied Arts, College of Science and Engineering announced
 - There will be a link on the ballot to the nominees' bios on the Faculty Senate website
 - Bios to be 150 words on academic governance background and governance experience

Around the table, continued

Various issues raised, including April 12 "Lobby Day" in Austin, continuing difficulties with custodial staff, slow internet connectivity, shared licenses for software, SPAM filters, and suitability of faculty dining facility

Upcoming agenda items:

- Academic Governance Committee Report
 - Oren Renick, Chair of the committee will come to April 19 senate meeting to make his report on their project to take data from 4 specific questions from Dean's Perception Survey to identify "Best Practices"
- Committee appointments
 - Committee on Committees makes recommendations based on Faculty Committee Preference Survey results
 - Should senate take a more active role in conferring with the committee on the considerations that govern appointments?

Approval of March 29 meeting minutes

Minutes unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter