

**Faculty Senate Minutes, Wednesday, August 29, 2018**

JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Attending Senators:** Augustine Agwuele, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Janet Bezner, Natalie Ceballos, Michel Conroy, Rachel Davenport, Jesse Gainer, Lynn Ledbetter, Ting Liu, Vince Luizzi, Ben Martin, David Nolan, Michael Supancic, Diego Vacaflares, Alex White

**Guests:** Scott Bowman (Special Assistant to the Provost for Inclusion and Diversity), Selene Hinojosa (Library), Araceli Ortiz (Faculty Senate Fellow), Greg Moses (Philosophy)

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Senate Chair Alex White

Welcome to our new Senate Fellow, Dr. Araceli Ortiz.

Summer Review

- Council of Academic Deans
  - Enrollment remains flat. Number of freshmen is up, but number of returning and transfer students is down. Budget decisions, such as merit raises, will happen at some point after the 12<sup>th</sup> day report.
  - The Workload Policy Work Group will discuss equity issues concerning workload across different levels of faculty and across disciplines. Doctoral faculty workload is an issue of interest.
  - Fields of Study Designation @ Community Colleges
    - “Fields of Study” are pre-degree programs at community colleges. Universities are required by law to accept courses from Fields of Study as transfer credits. In the event of a conflict (example: course taught at 2000 level in Fields of Study program vs. 3000 level at university) and with appropriate justification, university faculty may object.
- SACS-COC Review:
  - On September 10 – 11, V.P. Baird will visit our campus. There will be an Open Forum on Tuesday Sept 11 @ 9:30 in the Reed Parr Room (CAD, IE Council invited). Alex reports that faculty senators are welcome to attend the Open Forum.
  - The new QEP committee chairs are Wes Jennings and Erina Duganne.
- Reviews of UPD and Transit/Parking
  - Alex was part of the review teams for UPD and Transit/Parking.
  - The site visits have been completed, and the reports are pending.
  - The most significant issues identified in the reviews were related to communication and staffing.

Fall Calendar

- PAAG meetings will occur on 9/12, 10/10, 11/7, 12/5 (Regents Room)
- We will take Senate Photos on 9/12.
- Nontenure Line Faculty Reception will be on Thursday 9/20 from 4 – 6 pm at the Wittliff Gallery. Senators should RSVP to Janet so that she can get a head count and prepare name tags. There will be remarks around 5pm from the President, Provost, Associate Provost, etc. Nontenure Line Faculty will be eligible for door prizes.
- The Joint CAD/Council of Chairs/Senate meeting will be on Tuesday, 10/16 at 3:30.
- The full Senate meeting will be on 10/17 on the 11<sup>th</sup> Floor of JCK.

#### Senate Goals

- Senators broke into groups to brainstorm ideas for building community. Particular consideration was given to campus units or events, which the senate could partner with or promote. Results of the breakout session will be discussed at the next senate meeting.

#### Special Assistant to the Provost for Inclusion and Diversity, Scott Bowman

- Dr. Bowman visited to tell us about his new role as Special Assistant to the Provost for Inclusion and Diversity. His work focuses on improving diversity and inclusion for faculty members at Texas State.
- The first year of his appointment will be devoted to building infrastructure. For example, he is assembling a toolkit that faculty search committees can use to enhance diversity and inclusion in their search activities. To accompany the toolkit, Dr. Bowman will create a 1-hour pre-search training activity for faculty search committees.
- In addition to these projects, Dr. Bowman is also meeting with various groups across campus to facilitate diversity and inclusion. Major topics include selecting our peers (faculty hiring) and mentoring our students who represent the future pool of prospective faculty members.
- Dr. Bowman was invited to suggest ways that the Faculty Senate can support his general effort, such as spreading the information broadly through the Senate bulletin.

#### Survey of Faculty about Racial Climate

- Jesse gave an overview of the survey project. The survey will focus on the extent to which faculty feel equipped to address issues of race and racism in the classroom. Results of the survey could inform the Senate's specific efforts to improve inclusiveness on our campus. Alex will send the survey to all Senators and we will discuss this further at the next meeting. We will also talk about a timeline and determine who will oversee the process.

#### Appointments

- The Senate voted to approve updates to the membership of the Workload Work Group, the Honor Code Council, the Presidential Award Committees, the Academic Computing Committee, the Nontenure Line Faculty Committee, and the University Research Enhancement Committee. For the Presidential Award Committee for Teaching, additional members are needed from Fine Arts and Communication, Health Professions, and Liberal Arts.

#### Policy Reviews

- Michele and David will review AAPPS 02.04.10 Honorary Faculty Titles, which is due on September 3.
- Rachel and Diego will review AAPPS 2.03.20 Maintenance and Improvement of Quality of Instruction, which is due on September 3.
- Ting will review UPPS 07.08.02 Voluntary Withdrawal, which is due on September 6.

Remaining agenda items will be discussed at the next meeting.

6:04 pm. Adjournment by Chair Alex White

Minutes submitted by Natalie Ceballos, Secretary