

Faculty Senate Minutes, Wednesday, September 5, 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, Dave Nolan, Michael Supancic, Diego Vacaflones, Alex White

Guests: Selene Hinojosa, Araceli Ortiz, Ana Juarez, Cecilia Gutierrez, Alyssa Phelps

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

Schedule of Mace Bearers

- Faculty Senators volunteered to serve as mace bearers for graduation ceremonies in 2018-2019.

Texas Council of Faculty Senates

- On October 26-27, 2018 Alex and Ben will represent our university at the [TSUS Faculty Senates meeting](#) and the Texas Council of Faculty Senates meeting.

Senate Fellow Presentation: Araceli Ortiz

- Dr. Ortiz presented her plans and goals for the coming year. She noted that while our diverse student body is representative of the U.S. population, the faculty (particularly tenure-track faculty) do not reflect these changing demographics. As Senate Fellow, Dr. Ortiz's project will focus on building community among faculty women of color on our campus. She will explore ways to support faculty women of color and to increase retention and achievement of tenure in this group. This past summer, Dr. Ortiz organized a small Summer Scholarly Writing Retreat for Faculty Women of Color. She plans to formalize this work and recruit a larger group of participants. Dr. Ortiz's research will provide us with a sense of how the Senate can contribute most effectively to community building efforts for this vital group of faculty. Dr. Ortiz will be sending a "request for input" email to the Senators, asking us to provide information about any previous or ongoing efforts to support faculty of color at Texas State.

5:00 Break

Voter Registration Drive: Ana Juarez

- Dr. Juarez reported on the activities of the Voter Registration Task Force at Texas State and their ongoing efforts to increase student participation in elections. She asked for the Faculty Senate's support and described several ways that we could contribute to this work. She noted that Student Government has proposed the institutionalization of voter registration education as part of the curriculum in US 1100, as well as in the introductory courses in government on our campus. Additional discussion focused on

classroom visitation by nonpartisan voter registrars, such as MOVE Texas. Two representatives from MOVE Texas (Cecilia Gutierrez, Alyssa Phelps) described their experiences on our campus.

PAAG Items

- Possible PAAG items were discussed, and suggestions fell into three categories: 1) clarification on the university's stance regarding classroom visitation by nonpartisan voter registrars, 2) additional information about the Task Force on Inclusive Excellence and related efforts, and 3) discussion of the new Office of Sustainability and its goals and possibilities.

Approval of Minutes

- Meeting minutes were approved, up to and including August 29th.

Policy for Student Emails

- Senators discussed policies and reporting pathways for faculty who receive threatening or disturbing emails from students. This discussion was tabled and will continue next week.

6:06 pm Adjournment by Chair Alex White

Minutes submitted by Natalie Ceballos, Secretary