

Faculty Senate Minutes, Wednesday, April 3, 2019

JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

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

Guests: Eric Algoe, Audwin Anderson, Micky Autrey, Andrew Behnke, Matt Brooks, Gene Bourgeois, Darcy Downey, Tom Grimes, Selene Hinojosa, Debbie Thorne, Denise Trauth, Pam Wuestenberg

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

Presidential Academic Advisory Group. President Denise Trauth, Provost Gene Bourgeois, and Eric Algoe (Vice President for Support Services) addressed the following topics.

- **Merit Pool.** *The faculty senate was pleasantly surprised to hear about the 3% merit pool on Friday. The senate would like to hear any further details about the decision to offer the 3% and the consequences for the budget.*
 - President Trauth said that her highest budget priority was to provide a merit raise for the fall. The University was able to meet this goal through a combination of new funds from a tuition increase, plus small modifications to other budgets, such as those associated with student fees.
- **Legislative Update.** *While the senate understands that this is work in progress, in last week's joint meeting of the CAD and senate, the Provost mentioned some good signs from the house bills and an update would be appreciated.*
 - President Trauth expressed optimism about funding for several programs including the Texas School Safety Center and the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT) Center, as well as prospects for a new building on the San Marcos Campus and a new building on the Round Rock Campus.
 - Provost Bourgeois noted that transferability and dual credit are popular legislative issues at this time. He provided statistics for Texas State, indicating that our transfer students tend to graduate with the fewest number of excess hours, compared to other universities. He attributed this success to Texas State's outreach efforts with community colleges, advising work, and resources such as transfer planning guides.
- **Progress on Environmental Initiatives.** *This is a follow up to our conversation at PAAG last May. The Environment and Sustainability Committee has created a "Wish List" of initiatives large and small (attached). The senate would like to discuss a process for working with the administration to evaluate items on the list and prioritizing those that have a good combination of feasibility and impact.*
 - VP Algoe described the development and composition of the Texas State's Office of Environment and Sustainability, which has been in operation for about a year. Next, he discussed topics from the wish list and existing programs such as Bobcat Buzz and Bobcat Blend. VP Algoe also indicated that his office is considering bringing back two of the higher-impact components of the previous Pack It Up and Pass It On program: reuse of clothing and distribution of leftover, unexpired, packaged foods. A senator suggested that Texas State could put together a list of local resources (such as donation centers) for students.
 - VP Algoe discussed the possibility of increasing the coverage of sustainability issues in orientations for new students, faculty and staff. While time constraints may not permit the inclusion of a separate sustainability module, an informational handout may be developed and included in the orientation packet.
 - LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification was also discussed. VP Algoe noted that Texas State requires LEED-certified architects and LEED-certifiable designs for new buildings. However, because the cost may be prohibitive, the university may forgo the

additional administrative documentation that would be necessary to obtain the LEED certification plaque.

- VP Algoe also announced the Annual Sustainability Workshop, which will take place on April 24. Anyone can attend.

University Lecturers Series (ULS) Committee Report. Dr. Pam Wuestenberg, Chair of the ULS committee reported on their review of proposals. She also asked the senate to consider how heavily collaboration across campus should be weighted in the ULS committee's proposal scoring rubric. The rubric issue will be discussed further in a future senate meeting. Senators voted to approve the ULS committee's recommendations for funding, noting that funded applicants should be informed that there might be adjustments depending on the committee's final budget.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC) Report. Senator Supancic (UCC Chair) gave the report, and guests addressed program-specific issues, as noted below.

- **Addition of an undergraduate minor in African American Studies.** Dr. Audwin Anderson (Director, Center for Diversity and Gender Studies) described the process for creating this program. He noted that they will be hiring a new Associate Professor to administer this program. The faculty member's home department will be History, and the program will be administered through the Center for Diversity and Gender Studies.
- **Deletion of programs.**
 - **Graduate minor in Agricultural Education.** Senator Supancic (speaking on behalf of Dr. Madan Dey, Chair, Department of Agriculture) noted that the department has started a new master's degree that will take the place of this minor.
 - **Graduate certificate in Healthcare Administration.** Dr. Matt Brooks (Director, School of Health Administration) reported that a master's program in this area was added last year and will take the place of this certificate.
 - **Bachelor of Science major in Athletic Training.** Dr. Darcy Downey (Undergraduate Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Performance) indicated that this change was prompted by their accrediting body, which will require a master's in this area by 2022. They are admitting their last class for the BS degree now, and the proposal for a master's program is in progress.
- **Changes in programs.** Dr. Andrew Behnke (Director, School of Family and Consumer Sciences) explained that these changes were primarily updates to wording and titles. Changes were made to these programs: Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences, Master of Science major in Family and Child Studies, and undergraduate minor in Family and Child Development.
- **Revision of Policies.** Micky Autrey (Director, Curriculum Services) and Senator Supancic described changes to AA/PPS 02.01.40 Curriculum Committees and AA/PPS 02.01.11 Academic Certificates.
- Senators voted to approve the UCC's program recommendations and policy changes.

Minutes from the senate meeting on March 27th were approved.

Policies. Senator Martin will review AA/PPS 03.01.23 Participant Support on Sponsored Programs, due 4/15.

6:01 pm Adjournment by Chair Alex White