

August 31, 2011 Minutes

Members present: Furney, Sanders, Melzer, Stone, Cavitt, Wilson, Morey, Feakes, Winek, Czyzewska, E. Payne, Kimmel, McWilliams, Conroy

Guests: Sigler, McKenzie (*Star*)

Meeting called to order at 4:00.

Announcements:

1. The process for selecting a new Senator from the College of Education is underway, with the final vote to be completed by September 14.
2. To facilitate the creation of the new Committee for Non-Tenure-Track Faculty, a list of eligible faculty is being developed and a survey will be sent gauging their interest in serving.
3. The Texas Council of Faculty Senates will meet in Austin on October 28 and 29; the Chair and one additional Senator will attend. On October 29, the AAUP will sponsor a workshop in Austin, open to all faculty; the Chair encourages Senators to attend.
4. At recent CAD meetings, a number of issues important to faculty were discussed.
 - a. It was reported that the latest enrollment is 34, 267 students.
 - b. Eighteen degrees and majors on campus have similar names for both the major and the degree awarded; departments are exploring this issue to decide if changes are needed.
 - c. A Regents' report entitled "Picking Up the Pace," distributed at CAD, was shared with the Senate.
 - d. There will be a revision to the General Education Core in 2014, with the goal that all degrees will require only 120 hours.

Faculty Senate Committee Charges: Seeking to insure effective committee work and reporting to the Senate, Senators discussed developing charges for Senate committees, as well as a calendar for Chairs to report to the Senate on their committees' efforts. Such changes will allow the Senate to gather accurate information as well as monitor decisions on the disbursing of funds.

Faculty Senate / Senate Liaison Meeting: Senators suggested the following topics for the next meeting with liaisons:

1. An update on Departments' creation of workload policies.
2. The impacts of increased enrollment.
3. The new committee for Non-Tenure-Track Faculty.

The Chair will investigate the feasibility of a late-September meeting.

Eligibility for Emeritus Title: The Senate supports the awarding of emeritus status to clinical faculty who meet the requirements outlined in PPS 6.01.

BREAK

PPS 2.05, Academic Programs: Additions, Changes and

Deletions: PPS 2.05 is currently under revision. The Senate discussed insuring that the new version makes clear what happens to those proposals rejected at any level of review. In addition, the revised document should reflect that the UCC, a Senate committee, makes recommendations to the Senate, who then vote on the proposed changes to programs; the UCC should not have an independent vote.

New Business:

1. The ASG has inquired whether there can be an ASG liaison on the Senate. Senate meetings are open to anyone, and so representatives from the ASG are welcome.
2. Reduced fee parking: The Chair shared a policy approved in 2008 that reimburses for their parking fees part-time and adjunct faculty employed at 50% FTE or less. Requests for reimbursement are processed by the faculty member's department.
3. The Senate's recent changes to Development Leave policy are not yet reflected in the relevant PPS, since changes to a PPS must go through a formal review. Thus, the PPS website still details the former leave review process. The Chair will ask that the PPS site offer links to the new procedures, review rubric and documents, and will also send an email to faculty informing them of the changes to the review process.
4. The Chair accepted nominations for a tenure-track representative to the University Council.
5. A faculty member noted ongoing difficulties with the new Banner system.
6. A faculty member inquired about University planning for increased traffic due to higher enrollments. The administration is currently investigating traffic and transportation needs.
7. A faculty member wondered if there will be more flexibility in scheduling since classroom use is already near capacity.

Minutes of 8/24/11 were approved.

Adjournment.