

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 11, 2013
4:00 – 6:00 p.m., JCK 880

Senate members present: Bell-Metereau, Blunk, Cavitt, Conroy, Covington, Czyzewska, Feakes, Furney, Hindson, Menninger, Morris, Payne, Sriraman, Weill, White

Guests: Nancy Nusbaum, Interim Director, Transportation Services and Steve Prentiss Assistant Director of Parking Services; Robyn Diaz, Library Liaison, Karen Sigler, former Library Liaison, Prof. John McGee, Transportation Services Advisory Council member; Weldon McKenzie, University Star Reporter

Meeting called to order at 4:00

Information and Follow-Up Items

- Welcome to newly elected liaison from the library, Robyn Diaz
- Transportation Services Director candidate open forums
David Carr, Monday, 9/23, 1:00-2:00,
Tom Roberts, Tues., 9/24, 1:00, 11th floor, JCK
It is important for faculty to attend, because there is not a senate representative on the search committee.
- Announcement of Interim Director of the Counseling Center, Dr. Kathlyn Dailey
- Nathan Bond sent a letter thanking senators for participating in the new tenure-track faculty orientation luncheon, noting that the new faculty appreciated having one-on-one contact with senators.
- Student photos on rosters: The chair inquired about the concern that student ID photos are not updated on rosters. ID photos are not retaken unless the prior ID has been lost.

Council of Chairs (COC) Report 9/10 (Feakes)

The Provost attended the COC meeting to thank the chairs for shouldering the stresses that increased enrollment has caused. The chairs expressed concern about problematic directives on which the chairs said they were not consulted by the deans or the upper administration. The provost responded that CAD will address the issues raised and VP Van Wyatt will hold a separate meeting to answer questions about ITAC issues.

CAD Meeting Report, 9/9 (Conroy)

The deans heard an annual report from Human Resources staff on HR FY14 activities, such as legal compliance requirements, (the responsibility for which have recently been transferred to HR), the need for faculty and staff to register non-tobacco use with their health care plan, changes in the state contribution for medical plans, a newly defined Compensation and Employee Relations Manager, employee conflict of interest disclosure, outside employment disclosure, et. al. The Faculty Senate advises faculty to check the HR website and monthly bulletin for details on recent changes.

To more specifically target different groups, two to three Discover Texas events will be planned for each semester rather than during the upcoming Family Weekend, which for this year has been titled, “Show ‘Em State.”

The deans continued to discuss one-time incentive possibilities to increase graduate enrollment.

Parking Policy Changes, Nancy Nusbaum

Ms. Nusbaum gave a detailed update on transportation arrangements and parking policies. A coordinator of marketing will be hired soon to handle parking and transportation communications through Twitter, Facebook, email, and brochures.

The goal is to allow the university to avoid raising permit prices for the next two years. All parking spaces must be monetized. The following proposals to the President's Cabinet received approval to be enacted immediately:

- Part-time faculty (not per course) and staff are eligible for discounted restricted permits based on their salaries being converted to 100% FTE
- Per-course faculty can now purchase a semester restricted parking permit for \$112 per semester. Departments may increase per course faculty salaries to offset parking costs if there are sufficient funds in their budgets.

These provisions will cause a loss to parking fees of about \$50,000.

Approved for F14, vendors and contractors must purchase restricted parking permits or perimeter permits, or they can use pay garages.

Senate questioned rules for bus driver breaks, particularly at the music building. Restrooms are available for drivers on Bobcat Trail, but smoking is not allowed.

Senators asked what percentage of faculty, staff and students live in San Antonio, noting that there isn't transportation service in place from San Antonio to San Marcos. Austin – San Marcos shuttle information is available at <http://www.shuttle.txstate.edu/BTI/Alternatives-to-BTI.html>.

Piper Award Eligibility

Eligibility requirements for the Texas State nominee differ from the Piper Foundation's, which require full-time teaching, but don't require tenure. Texas State's internal criteria require 50% or more teaching and tenure for application. The senate voted to not change the policy for this year, but will return to the issue in the spring for next year's cycle.

Old Business

Committee Appointments

- University Research Committee, COSE one-year substitute: Eugene Curtin was appointed
- Work Life Advisory Council: Raul Rodriguez, Music was reappointed
- Adjunct faculty committee liaison names should be forwarded to Senator Feakes. AFC meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Friday of the month (liaisons are not required to attend).
- The chair expressed interest in developing a committee appointment process that allows for appointments to be endorsed off agenda.

Committee Charges

- Academic Governance Committee
The 2013-14 charge is to systematically examine and evaluate mandated department and college policies regarding faculty--starting with Liberal Arts, Science and Engineering, and Business in the fall and continuing with remaining colleges in the spring, Senator Hindson is AGC chair and his initial plan is to meet with the committee to discuss the process and to assemble an inventory of the policies in question. He then foresees meeting with all department chairs and the department senate liaison or senator to look at the policies and gauge any perceived problems or concerns.
- The Retirement Programs Committee function will be expanded to include monitoring benefit

programs—the new name will be the Retirement and Benefit Programs Committee.

- Academic Standards Committee
Possible charge questions could involve equivalencies (e.g. MOOCs), disparities in student knowledge with community college course credit, CLEP tests for exemption from courses, plagiarism issues, lab requirements, and how inconsistent policies across institutions for the recording of grades for repeated courses impact transfer GPAs.

New Business

- TSUS: Chancellor Bryan McCall and Vice Chancellor Perry Moore Friday, October 25, at system headquarters at 9:00am. Please send discussion item suggestions.
TCFS meeting, two delegates, Embassy Suites Hotel, Austin, 1:00 -5:00 continuing on Saturday; Senator Hindson has volunteered to attend with the chair.
- Liaison meeting planning - RTA

Approval of 8/28 and 9/4/13 minutes

Senators will read the latest version of the 9/4 minutes with the goal of verifying accuracy. The secretary suggested replying all to avoid duplication.

The 8/28/13 minutes were approved with suggested amendments. Secretary is instructed to amend and put first and last names of guests.

6:15 Adjournment