

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, November 13, 2013

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

Guests: Diaz, Robyn A.; Wyatt, C. Van

Information and Follow-Up Items

Council of Chairs 11/7 meeting report, Feakes

- Associate Provost Opheim presented a demonstration on the TK20 e-portfolio. Six departments are participating in a pilot study entering 2 years of data, although 3 years are necessary for merit.
- Chris Muir from financial aid explained U grade for unearned F, implemented this fall 2013, whereby students have to participate about 60% into the semester (automatic W date). Question will be when was last day they participated in the course, through last exam, quiz, or attendance. Memo sent out last week with PPS pen and ink changes and proposals to include this information in the syllabus.
- President of San Marcos Chamber of Commerce presented plans for a Feb. 1, 2014 STEM event, targeting 6-10th graders, including a van with hands-on learning. Chamber is looking for volunteers among faculty.
- Charge for academic governance committee had split reception, some chairs were receptive; some not; caveat concerning bottom up process, not top down

Search updates

Director of Counseling Center, Candidate campus interviews Friday, 11/15 and 11/22; 8:30-10:00, LBJ 3-15.1, rsvp

- Director of counseling center; in addition to breakfast meetings, candidate open forums will take place, with two possibilities of meeting with each candidate. RSVP to have a number for meeting at student center.

Chief Diversity Officer, Candidate campus interviews Nov. 26-27, Dec. 5-6 and Dec.12-13, rsvp; open forums planned on first day at 2:00, location to be determined

- Chief diversity officer; after telephone interviews with 5 candidates on Friday, bringing 3 to campus, with four opportunities to meet candidates (open forum or breakfasts); November 26 and 27, also breakfast at 7:45 on 26th at Embassy Suites breakfast and open forum.

University Survey Committee

- Surveys from Institutional Research will be scheduled to not inundate faculty with surveys; with perception of administrators; committee preference survey in spring, as do Senate elections

Adjunct Faculty Workload Release

- Requirement of no more than 42 workload credits each long semester.
- Nine applied for fall semester and three for spring. Senate observed that it would be preferable if they were spread more evenly.

Development Leave Supplemental Grant Review Committee

- Rubric evaluation from electronic submission; does not typically meet; decisions between end of semester and Jan 10, 2014.
- Senator Menninger appointed by acclamation.

Computer Refresh Cycle, VP for Information Technology Van Wyatt

- Refresh cycle is based on current HR system data using HEAF \$465,000 a year for faculty and staff computer refresh cycle on average. Some departments have faculty make up the difference, with allocations based on honor system. Engineering class machines increase costs and are not always necessary. Fewer than 30% are laptop among faculty.
- All equipment is handed down and deployed for graduate assistants, student workstations. Average desktop survives for 7 years.
- Non-HEAF eligible staff, student affairs, etc., fund their own refresh cycle.
- Funds not awarded through the Academic Computing Committee review are rolled into IT for classrooms. Some rooms used for classes, but not coded so, don't have technology.
- University has invested in research computing. Built HPC (high-performance computing) laboratory by pooling resources, 478 classrooms with technology.

Summative Review of Chairs proposal returned to Faculty Senate for revision

Main objectives: clear, safe, and secure avenue to get comments to the dean and faculty access to the results of review

Student services at Round Rock, on hold until Counseling Center Director is hired.

Joint Deans/Chairs/Senate meeting possible agenda items

Meeting time 3:00 – 5:00, JCK 11th floor; on Wednesday, Nov. 20

Approval of 11/6 minutes as amended.

Adjournment 6:14