

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, March 4, 2015
JCK 880, 4 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.

Present

Senators: Augustine Agwuele, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Elizabeth Blunk, Michel Conroy, Barbara Covington, Ju Long, Lynn Ledbetter, Audrey McKinney, Shirley Ogletree, Emily Miller Payne, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Vedaraman Sriraman, Susan Weill, Alex White

Guests: Micky Autrey, Tim England, Roger Colombik, Mike Supancic, Nancy Chavkin, Angela Ausbrooks, *University Star* reporter Anna Herrod

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by Senate Chair Conroy

INFORMATION AND FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

- TSUS Council of Faculty Senates and Texas Council of Faculty Senates reports, Senator Conroy
Senators Conroy and Miller Payne represented Texas State University. Topics discussed at the TSUS Council of Faculty Senates meeting, attended by TSUS faculty senators, TSUS Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Perry Moore and TSUS Vice Chancellor and General Counsel Fernando Gomez included (1) shared governance, (2) guns on campus, and no system-wide stance if the law passes (3) opposition by some TSUS institutions to outcome-based funding, (4) a 4 percent tuition fee cap, and (5) the BSN compared to the RN and the newly approved doctor of nursing practice. (6) Moore expressed willingness to consider adding a definition of insubordination to the Regents Rules and was thanked for his assistance in simplifying the outside employment approval process.
At the [Texas Council of Faculty Senates](#), a panel discussed collegiality and bullying in academia. Senator Conroy inquired if the group wanted to join the Texas State Faculty Senate statement against guns on campus, but the TCFS has issued a group statement:
Texas Council of Faculty Senates **RESOLUTION REGARDING HAND GUNS**
WHEREAS allowing concealed firearms on university campuses threatens our ability to create and maintain a safe, open learning environment for students, faculty and staff, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of Texas Council of Faculty Senates oppose any legislation or initiatives that will overturn the present prohibitions on carrying concealed weapons on university campuses.
The Texas Association of College Teachers (TACT) asked to be included in the Texas State statement.
- Associate Vice President for Instructional Technologies Support search, Senator Feakes
A search firm is now handling the process and is currently narrowing down candidates.
- Voter lists verification for spring Faculty Senate elections
Senators and liaisons in colleges conducting Senate elections this spring will verify voting lists. All faculty at 50 percent FTE or more are eligible to vote. Tenure is required to serve as a senator.

Adjunct Faculty Committee (AFC) request discussion, Senator Sriraman

The AFC is seeking a Faculty Senate seat for adjuncts. Since tenure is required of senators by the Faculty Constitution, any change requires a referendum. The request was tabled for further discussion and action. A position of Faculty Senate Fellow was proposed, discussed and approved with a representative from the AFC to serve as the first fellow.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC) report, Michael Supancic, chair

A School of Social Work master's degree (MSW) proposal for Advanced Practice and Leadership would combine two current tracks in the school, Direct Practice and Administrative Leadership. The proposal was approved by the UCC and the Faculty Senate suspended its rules to vote approval. Another UCC action was to standardize the process for course proposals submitted to the General Education Council. The Faculty Senate thanked Supancic for his service to the UCC.

Academic Computing Committee (ACC) report, Tim England, chair

The ACC is recommending funding for 17 of 27 proposals submitted for FY 2015. The funding is for replacement and updating of computer equipment and renovating computer labs. The ACC is in the process of developing a

program for online application of proposals for FY 2016. The Faculty Senate thanked England for his service to the ACC.

University Lecturers Committee (ULC) report, Roger Colombik, chair

The ULC is recommending funding for 12 of the 14 proposals submitted for FY 2015. The committee hopes to receive a greater number of requests in the future and is working to develop a process for quick-turnaround proposals as funds become available through cancellations of funded speakers. The Faculty Senate thanked Colombik for his service to the ULC.

Finalizing HB2504 Student Perceptions of Instruction online trial

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication will carry over from the fall trial. The departments of Clinical Laboratory Science, Family and Consumer Sciences, Art and Design, Anthropology and Mathematics have agreed to participate in the spring trial.

Council of Academic Deans (CAD) 2/3/2015 report, Senator Conroy

Topics discussed at CAD included (1) changes to the nomination form for graduate faculty, (2) the 2015 fall semester calendar, (3) the undergraduate admissions report, and (4) the graduate admissions report.

New Business

There are six levels of graduate faculty. Policy states that adjunct faculty are not eligible to chair a master's thesis committee, but departments can appeal that rule on a case by case basis.

Minutes of 2/25 approved as amended

Meeting adjourned at 6 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Susan Weill