

Faculty Senate Minutes

Joint Faculty Senate and Council of Academic Deans

Wednesday, March 25, 2015

JCK 11th Floor, 3:30 p.m. – 5:40 p.m.

Attending

Senators: Augustine Agwuele, Barbara Covington, Ju Long, Lynn Ledbetter, Audrey McKinney, Shirley Ogletree, Emily Miller Payne, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Susan Weill, Alex White

Administrators: Provost Bourgeois, Associate Provost Opheim, Ronald Brown, Susan Day, Michael Heintze, Debbie Thorne, Beth Wuest,

Deans: Daniel Brown, University College; Jaime Chahin, College of Applied Arts; John Fleming, Fine Arts and Communication; Heather Galloway, Andrea Golato, The Graduate College; Michael Hennessy, College of Liberal Arts; Lisa Lloyd, College of Education; Stephen Seidman, College of Science; Denise Smart, McCoy College of Business Administration; Ruth Welborn, College of Health Professions

Guests: Steve Frayser; Angela Podes; Billy Covington; Paivi Rentz, Library Liaison; Nick Laughlin, *University Star*

Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Provost Bourgeois

STAR Park

Guest, Steve Frayser, outlined mission of STAR (Science, Technology and Advanced Research) Park as a 38-acre research park with 14,000 sq. ft. of completed space that became fully operational in July 2013 and fully leased by December. A two-phase expansion has been launched. Phase One (6,300 sq. ft. of space for six new laboratory suites) will be finished by June 1, 2015. Phase Two (a 16,000 sq. ft. addition to the existing building) will be completed in August/September 2016. In an attempt to assist Texas State in achieving NRU status, STAR Park wants to be positioned to assist faculty with their research efforts. Feedback from faculty is sought by the end of the Spring semester. Please send all comments received to Steve Frayser (s_f75@txstate.edu).

Shared Governance

General comments were voiced defining Shared Governance as a chain of command in which everyone has a voice.

- How shared governance is fostered, including with chairs or directors and Personnel Committees related to faculty searches and annual faculty evaluations – a variety of approaches is used across the departments, some having an adjunct faculty committee for the evaluation of adjunct faculty; some with adjunct faculty membership on search committees.

- How adjunct faculty are engaged in shared governance - Some colleges/departments feel that if an adjunct faculty member has research/creative expectations, that faculty member should have the opportunity to be considered for travel assistance through the department. The University College has a concern that having 180 adjunct faculty they have no representation on the Adjunct Faculty Committee.

Level of support for College-level Adjunct Faculty Committees – the feeling is that the Adjunct Faculty Committee should consider developing a proposal outlining membership and procedure before this discussion can go further.

Financial Aid for Stand Alone Certificate Programs

Dr. Heintze asked that students in Stand Alone Certificate Programs (Note: This does NOT affect Teacher Certification programs) be alerted to the fact that they will no longer be eligible for financial aid as of June 1, 2015. There are other ways to secure financial assistance.

- Students may apply for admission as a degree seeking student
- Students may seek an alternative loan at a local bank

Admissions Updates

- Freshman applications and admissions are up by 10%, with transfer student applications up, also. Housing applications are up by 25%.
- Graduate applications are up by 3% with acceptances up by 3%
- There are 30 doctoral level applications, with 14 already accepted

TXDOT Aquarena Springs Overpass Project

- This project will begin in September 2015
- Completion is expected to take two years

Legislative Update

- HB1 will change research funding formula with an estimated \$2.6 million to Texas State
- Hazlewood Act is under discussion with consideration being given to calculation of tuition free hours dependent on number of years of military service; possible changes to legacy eligibility.
- Nothing new on concealed weapon bill

Research Activity

- For the second quarter, research activity is at \$2 million

Phi Kappa Phi

- 368 inductees in two ceremonies on April 12: 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in Alkek Teaching Theater

San Marcos High School Project Graduation

- Donations are being sought for this project by R. Jon McGee in the Anthropology Department at rm08@txstate.edu or (512) 245-2474

CAD Follow-Up

- Most colleges seem to feel that adjunct faculty are involved in varying extents
- There seems to be a positive attitude toward finding another term for adjunct faculty

PAAG Discussion Items

- Perception by some tenure-track faculty that Provost Bourgeois has indicated that their top priority should be publication, and then seeking grants
(For some kinds of national-level external funding, special funding is available for early-career faculty. These funds are not as competitive as funding opportunities available later in faculty members' careers, and not applying/receiving one of these grants could potentially jeopardize faculty members' future applications once they receive tenure.)

Minutes of 3/4 and 3/11 approved

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter