**Faculty Senate Minutes**

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

LBJSC 3-21.1, 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

**Attending Senators:** Taylor Acee, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Dale Blasingame, Rachel Davenport, Jennifer Jensen, Lynn Ledbetter, Ben Martin, Roque Mendez, Danette Myers, Michael Supancic, Nicole Wesley

**Guests:** Karen Sigler

The meeting began at 4:32 pm.

The meeting was held in the LBJ Student Center following the Town Hall with Dr. Kelly Damphousse, the candidate for university president.

**Debrief from Town Hall**

Senators discussed their reactions to the Town Hall meeting.

The senate will invite the new president to the first Presidential Academic Advisory Group meeting of the 2022-2023 academic year in September.

**Policy Reviews**

* AAPPS No. 03.01.20, Effort Reporting on Sponsored Programs, due May 3 (Senator Mendez)
* UPPS 04.04.48 Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, full review, due April 20 (Senator Supancic)

**Texas Council of Faculty Senates/AAUP/TFA/TACT Meetings Report (April 8 - 9, 2022) - Senator Ledbetter**

Each university reported their progress over the past year. Many universities expressed that they faced challenges that Texas State has managed very well.

The main topic of discussion was the charge to the Higher Education Committee regarding the role of faculty senates and the status of tenure. There was anger directed toward UT for their action in provoking this conflict with the legislature. The Council for Faculty Senates previously released as statement through its executive committee. They are currently working on a statement through a committee that speaks for the full Council. Universities are not expected to comment publicly on the issue. It is generally agreed that it is important to express the importance of tenure and the role that it serves in higher education. Likewise, it is important to convey that the loss of tenure would have a devastating effect on Texas universities. This will have real financial impacts that should be clearly explained. This topic is currently being explored by the Council of Faculty Senates.

The senate is considering the most effective approach to making a meaningful impact in communicating our concerns. One option is to pass a more detailed resolution. Alternately, the senate could attempt to directly communicate with members of the board of regents in they hope that they could advocate to the legislature the importance of faculty senates and tenure in higher education. The senate is considering bringing this up in the upcoming Presidential Academic Advising Group meeting.

**Other Items**

The April 6, 2022 minutes were approved by vote.

It was suggested that senators who will be missing an upcoming meeting identify a substitute from their college to attend in their absence. The senate is considering this option, especially since options such as Zoom increase the ability of senators to participate even while they are travelling.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm

Minutes submitted by Ben Martin