

**Faculty Senate Minutes**  
Wednesday, September 16, 2015  
JCK 880 Room, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Attending**

**Senators:** Augustine Aguwele, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Scott Bowman, Michel Conroy, Barbara Covington, Dana Garcia, Ju Long, Lynn Ledbetter, Shirley Ogletree, Emily Payne, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Vedaraman Sriraman, Susan Weill, Alex White

**Faculty Senate Fellow:** Andrew Marks

**Guests:** Faculty Senate liaison Selene Hinojosa (Library); *University Star* reporter Darcy Sprague.

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

**Information and follow-up items**

- Council of Academic Deans, Sept. 15 meeting report  
Topics discussed included final testing policy for students with recognized disabilities
- Texas Council of Faculty Senates and TSUS meeting representative
  - Discussion of meeting scheduled for Friday, October 16 in Austin
  - Will be attended by TXST Faculty Senate Chair Conroy and Senator Payne (TSUS)
- Muriel Muir Mentor awards selection senate representative needed
  - Endorsement of Senator Ogletree as senate representative
- ACC Applied Arts representative
  - Discussion regarding this committee's representation from Applied Arts
- Staggering senator terms and spring elections proposal
  - Endorsement of 2 year term for one of the elected senators (from Liberal Arts or Fine Arts and Communication) in upcoming elections
- Mace assignments, August 12 at 6:00 p.m.
  - Senator Long will be mace bearer for this commencement ceremony

**Senate goals for 2015-16**

- Discussion regarding meeting 2014-15 goals, such as
  - improving communication with faculty, liaisons and senate committees (through monthly senate bullet points, senator visits to department/school meetings, senator college council membership inquiries, and liaisons being invited to attend PAAG meetings),
  - improving /creating working relationship with system officers, and
  - sustainability and environment (through renaming and revising Facilities and environment committee purpose and function, revising 2012-17 university plan goal #5 to include an objective that better reflects the university's long-term commitment to a sustainable future, and possibility of a wind or solar farm),
  - counseling services and resources (including Round Rock), and
  - research support and incentives.
- Discussion regarding the possibility of adding more committee members to the Sustainability and Environment Committee as the scope of the committee's work will be far-reaching.
- A new goal was discussed regarding information sharing and relationship building with new administrative hires
- Discussion regarding availability of startup funds for new faculty with a new goal of examining research support (such as staff to assist/mentor faculty writing of research grants) to better assist in achieving ERU status

**Instructional Technologies, Dr. Carlos Solis**

A presentation by VPIT Dr. Carlos Solis included information on initiatives involving active learning environments, flip classrooms, and incorporation of media. Dr. Solis stressed the importance of working closely with faculty on new teaching methodologies to help them achieve their goals. Partnerships with the Academic Computing Committee were discussed, as well as facilitating improvement in the wireless infrastructure in able to better leverage technology to engage students in the classroom.

**Policy reviews**

- UPPS 04.05.20 Workplace Violence (new), 9/24 (Senators Bowman and Conroy)
- UPPS 05.04.04 Texas State Security Alarm Systems, 9/24 (Senator White)
- UPPS 05.04.05 Video Documentation & Surveillance Systems, 9/25 (Senator Bell-Metereau)

**New Business**

- Modern States Education Alliance first year free agreement  
-Returned to Agenda

Approval of minutes of 9/2/15 – to be done by email

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter