

Faculty Senate Minutes
Joint Faculty Senate and Council of Academic Deans

Wednesday, March 9, 2016
JCK 11th Floor, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Attending

Senators: Augustine Agwuele, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Scott Bowman, Michel Conroy, Barbara Covington, Lynn Ledbetter, Ju Long, Emily Miller-Payne, Shirley Ogletree, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Susan Weill, Alex White

Administrators: Provost Bourgeois, Associate Provost Opheim, Mary Brennan, Michael Heintze, Debbie Thorne, Beth Wuest,

Deans: Chad Booth, College of Science; Daniel Brown, University College; William Chittenden, McCoy College of Business Administration; Heather Galloway, Honors College; Andrea Golato, The Graduate College; Bob Habingreither, College of Science and Engineering; Michael Hennessy, College of Liberal Arts; Lisa Lloyd, College of Education; Donna Vandiver, College of Applied Arts; Ruth Welborn, College of Health Professions

Senate Fellow: Andrew Marks

Guests: Lesly DeLeon, *University Star*

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

Follow-up on School Song Lyric Change (Senator Conroy)

- Faculty Senate proposal to change “Alma Mater” lyric from “...cheering the oppressed” to “...aiding the oppressed” has been endorsed by Council of Chairs
- Council of Academic Deans voted unanimously to endorse the proposal and will send a written statement to the president.

Request to Post Presidential Award Application Examples on College Websites (Senator Conroy)

- Discussion about posting of successful Presidential Award recipient applications (with permission of award recipients) on a general TRACS site accessible by login to everyone
 - Colleges may wish to post on their individual websites with permission of award recipients
 - Senate will link to the TRACS site from a Presidential Awards information page
 - Discussion of change in policy to add to wording that successful award recipients will agree to have their applications posted on the general TRACS site

Academic Governance Committee Survey Request (Associate Provost Opheim)

- General discussion about expanding orientation presentation on academic governance
- Concern expressed that there is some misunderstanding among faculty of what academic governance is and how it functions
- General intent of survey is to gather information regarding best practices in various departments and colleges and to answer the question of what else (besides orientations) is being done during the academic year to reinforce faculty sharing in academic governance

Undergraduate Admissions Report (Dr. Michael Heintze)

- Over 29,000 freshman applications for Fall 2016, representing an increase of 17.3% from Fall 2015
Applications that were received by this date in 2015
-14,008 acceptances for Fall 2016, representing an increase of 12.5% from acceptances for Fall 2015
-More guaranteed admits
- Possibility of decision being made to close admission for fall
- 3,111 transfer student applications thus far for Fall 2016, representing a decrease of 9.5% from transfer student applications for Fall 2015 by this date
-1,353 transfer student acceptances for Fall 2016, representing a decrease of 18.5% from transfer student acceptances for Fall 2015 that were received at this time last year
-Goal was 3,800 transfer student applications for Fall 2016

Graduate Admissions Report (Dr. Andrea Golato)

- Some departments are waiting until all applications for Fall 2016 are in before reviewing, so numbers reported may not be a totally accurate reflection of current statistics

Equity Pay Raises (Provost Bourgeois)

- Provost Bourgeois indicated that the Academic Affairs Budget Priority Committee prefers not to take equity adjustments from 3% merit pool
- President's cabinet has determined that equity adjustments would need to be carved out of 3% merit pool
- We have 130 institutions in our comparison set in CUPA data
-A review of the comparison set is appropriate

Cats Caravan

- "Cats Caravan" was held in Dallas recently
-Informs, cultivates and builds partnerships with existing alumni
-Over 350 participants
-President Trauth was in attendance
-Students spoke of growing academic reputation of Texas State

Scheduling

- Discussion of scheduling issues including feasibility of offering MWF classes again
-Need for support staff (IT, custodial, food services, buses) if class days are opened up
-Other options, including online and hybrid courses and distance education flip classrooms

May 4 Master Plan Consultants

- Master Plan consultants wish to meet with Senate on May 4
-They arrive on May 3 and leave on May 6

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JCK 880, 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Information and follow up items

- Council of Chairs March 3 meeting report (Senator Conroy)
-"Alma Mater" revision endorsed

-Eric Algoe (VPFSS) and Auxiliary Services Director John Root discussed ways to get ahead of bookstore textbook ordering problems

- TSUS Council of Faculty Senates
Interim legislative update by Sean Cunningham, Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations
 - Call to study community college system since there are two-year colleges that want to begin awarding baccalaureate degrees
 - Senator Birdwell has agreed to bring Hazlewood Act legislation forward in next legislative session
 - Discussion of implications of data showing that the data on the “60 x 30” initiative (60% of adult Texas citizens will have achieved a higher education degree by 2030) puts the state at 28% currently
 - Student debt task force being formed by Governor will hold “listening sessions” in 3 cities
 - Tightening of Campus Carry with a view toward litigable issues
 - Possible federal expansion of Pell grants to include summer
 - HEAF, which follows a 10-year cycle, will be re-formulated; current data indicates state support has dropped 34% from 2007-2016
 - “Open Stax” free online textbook program is being studied for possible use at system institutions

Transportation Services Advisory Council

- Agreement to accept current member’s resignation and accept recommendation for replacement to fill the position through the end of Spring 2016 semester

Faculty Constitution

- Chair Conroy has requested time on NLFC agenda for April meeting to get input from membership regarding possible change in Faculty Constitution

Approval of March 2 meeting minutes

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter