

Faculty Senate
Wednesday, October 11, 2017
4:00 – 6:00, JCK 880

Minutes from previous meetings are available at
<http://www.txstate.edu/facultysenate/about/59th-senate-minutes.html>

Attending senators: Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Elizabeth Bishop, Scott Bowman, Natalie Ceballos, Michel Conroy, Dana Garcia, Benjamin Martin, David Nolan, Shane Smith, Ting Liu, Alex White, Diego Vacaflores

Liaisons and guests: Eugene Curtin, Selene Hinojosa (Library), Alyssa Newsome (*University Star*)

Piper Committee Report:

Eugene Curtin, Chair of the Piper Committee, reported that three candidates are recommended for consideration and discussed ways to encourage more colleges to nominate candidates.

Call for Senate Fellow:

A call for applications will go out in January, with proposals due the week after spring break for the term from September 2018 to August 2019, covering a semester with three credit hours of assigned time, and requiring a report by August 2019.

Faculty Concerns:

Senate finalized the form to be used on the university website for faculty concerns, to be available after testing, and discussed the following concerns:

- Faculty questioned turnaround time and a perceived bottleneck for approval of Institutional Review Board (IRB) for faculty and graduate students. Senate will invite Sean Rubino to discuss these issues.
- Faculty reported a Counseling Center response to a student with an eating disorder, which prompted the question of whether this is an issue for Faculty Senate. Recommendation: Forward to Counseling Center, Dean of Students, and Student Affairs
- In response to faculty concerns, Senate will discuss parking issues with Stephen Herrera on November 1, 2017.
- Responding to questions about long term disability benefits, Faculty Senate will forward the issue to Retirement and Benefit Programs Committee.

Two other concerns should be filed on forms for faculty concerns, to clarify the issues and actions already taken:

- Concerns regarding privacy and copyright in ODS-required taping of faculty lectures
- Request for revision of campus carry policy to allow private faculty offices to be “no-weapons” zones

October Bulletin: Bulletin Committee:

Senate approved items for the October bulletin:

- Memorial for Mr. Andrew Marks, Lecturer at Texas State School of Social Work and first Faculty Senate Fellow
- Invitation for nominations for the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program
- Research Enhancement Program application deadline of Wednesday, 25 October 2017
- University Leave Policy reporting procedures
- University Lecturers Committee invitation to submit supplemental proposals for Spring 2018 by email to faculty senate@txstate.edu before 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 27
- Faculty Senate hosting a series of faculty gatherings this school year to foster a sense of community

Faculty Development Leave Review Calendar:

- Dean's review is due by October 16.
- Senate will review 48 proposals by group:
 - Group A: Liberal Arts, Fine Arts & Communication, Health Professions (total of 24)
 - Group B: Applied Arts, Business, Education, Science & Engineering (total of 25)
 - Senators review and rank proposals from their group according to the rubric, with preliminary data compiled electronically prior to a closed session.
 - In closed session, senators will separate by group and discuss results.
 - Two groups will convene in closed session to discuss any unresolved questions or issues.
 - Senators will submit final scores and rankings will be forwarded to the provost's office.

November 29 is the tentative date to complete reviews; the chair will confirm due date for reporting to the provost.

Sick Leave Policy:

A committee including Ben Martin, Michel Conroy, and Scott Bowman will work on suggested revisions to the current sick leave policy, as requested by Associate Provost Thorne.

Senate Initiative for Community:

The chair is scheduled to meet Vice President Algoe to discuss Jones diner as faculty lunch room and gathering location. Topics will include interdisciplinary themed meetings, cohort reunions from the Program for Excellence in Teaching & Scholarship, themed interdisciplinary meetings; scheduling speakers who are already on campus; budget and attendance.

Future Initiatives:

Senators discussed requesting that the university invest in an institutional Fulbright membership. RTA

Senate approved minutes for 10/4/17.

6:00 Adjournment.

Minutes submitted by Rebecca Bell-Metereau