

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, June 3, 2015
JCK 880

Present

Senators: Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Scott Bowman, Michel Conroy, Dana Garcia, Lynn Ledbetter, Ju Long, Audrey McKinney, Shirley Ogletree, Emily Miller Payne, Jovita Ross-Gordon, Vedaraman Sriraman, Susan Weill, Alex White
Guests: Paivi Rentz, library liaison; Andrew Marks

Meeting called to order at 3 p.m. by Senate Chair Conroy

INFORMATION AND FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

Council of Academic Deans (5/26 and 6/2) Meeting Reports

- Undergraduate Admissions
 - Approximately 4,000 students who transferred to TXST since 2011 have not validated their foreign language requirement. Beginning SP16, all undergraduate degree-seeking applicants will be required to submit a HS transcript to verify foreign language proficiency. Advisors will assist current students to register for coursework or placement testing.
- Undergraduate Catalog Updates
 - Deletion of statement identifying degree programs of 122 hours or more as 5-year programs
 - Clarification of policy concerning practice of allowing a student who makes a B or higher on first freshman level literature course to have the option to choose an advanced 3000 level literature course instead of a second sophomore level literature course.
 - Units encouraged to review courses not taught four or more years. It was suggested that special topics courses be consolidated under more general course titles.
- IT issues
 - A two factor authorization process to be introduced for transactions involving financial and privacy issues.
 - SPSS software will continue in Tier I, funded by IT. If IBM cost increases become prohibitive, it will return to Tier II, in which costs are shared with units using it.
 - Faculty are encouraged to use [CrashPlan](#) to backup data on computers
 - Voice mail system will soon be upgraded to MS Unified Messaging. A new feature is phone messages will appear in email; currently in pilot test, will be implemented campus-wide in Spring 2016.
- Job Posting Policy
 - To comply with Texas Workforce Commission requirements, each college now has a blanket ad posting for temporary or emergency hires with the unit's contact number
- Evaluation of academic deans
 - A pen and ink change to PPS 8.03 will be made to specify that the Faculty Perceptions of Deans Survey will be delivered to the provost as a component of the deans' annual reviews.
- Legislative update
 - Texas State's two construction projects approved
 - No legislative action on Hazlewood Act

- Concealed carry on campuses by licensed gun owners must be implemented by F16
- STAR Park request not approved
- Texas Research Incentive Program (TRIP) netted an additional \$2.8 million for fiscal year 2017, representing an increase from \$2.0 million for fiscal year 2016
- Both Higher Education Act Funds (HEAF) and general appropriations were increased
- Piper Award Faculty Requests application
 - TR team working on moving Piper application online; senators were asked to test the new application.
- Committee assignments
 - Continuing discussion of senate committee appointments including action on the Environment and Sustainability Committee.
 - Senators were asked to review the university level committee representatives needed for their colleges and to bring recommendations to the July meeting.

Faculty Perceptions of Honors, Graduate and University College Deans Surveys

Work is needed on the distribution lists to ensure that these surveys are sent to the appropriate constituencies.

Faculty Senate Fellow assignments

A committee of Senators Conroy (chair), Ogletree, Miller Payne, and Faculty Senate Fellow Marks will work to formulate a program regarding the fellow's activities this year and an application procedure for future fellows.

Review process for online HB 2504 student perceptions of instruction

A committee of Senators White (chair), Bowman, Covington, Ross-Gordon, and Weill will look at data, including response rate and the spread of responses to assess the process.

New Business

- The University Star has a new news editor, and she will be invited to visit with the Faculty Senate in the Fall about the continuing role of the newspaper in covering the Senate meetings.
- Part-time Teaching Awardees have been notified by their deans.

Minutes of 5/6 approved.

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter