

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
JCK 880, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Attending

Senators: Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Elizabeth Bishop, Scott Bowman, Natalie Ceballos, Michel Conroy, Jesse Gainer, Dana Garcia, Ted Hindson (for Vince Luizzi), Benjamin Martin, David Nolan, Shane Smith, Diego Vacaflores, Alex White.

Guests: Bill Stone (Chair, Committee on Committees); Selene Hinojosa (Library); Karen Sigler (Library); Sandra Sadek (*University Star*); Evelyn Garcia (journalism student).

Meeting called to order at 4:01 p.m. by Senate Chair White

Committee on Committees (COC) report (Dr. Bill Stone)

Dr. Stone, chair of the Committee on Committees, presented the committee recommendations.

- Each college has a representative on the COC.
- Overall, survey response numbers are down, except for the larger colleges.
- Committee volunteer numbers are down at the higher academic ranks.
- The senate posed questions about student representation on committees. Dr. Stone stated that the senate can add students to committees if desired, but it has not been successful in the past due to lack of student members meeting attendance.
- The senate asked about rotating representation among college departments on the committees that comprise college representatives. Dr. Stone stated that the COC has looked at rotating departments on to these committees, however a lack of volunteers is limiting the ability to do so.
- The new survey format did not ask faculty whether they were willing to serve as a committee chair. The COC was reluctant to make a specific recommendation on the new chair positions and is recommending that the new member assigned to that position be instructed to call the first meeting and elect a chair (this recommendation would not apply to Curriculum Committee).
- Senate Chair White asked senate members to look over the COC recommendations and be ready to discuss committee assignments next week.
- The senate discussed other committee assignments and how to replace committee chairs once their terms are finished.
- A recommendation was made to reappoint Dr. Pam Wuestenberg, University Lecturers Committee Chair, as chair.
- A recommendation was made to combine the Academic Standards Committee and Academic Governance Committee.

Senate Fellow candidates (Senator Ceballos)

Senator Ceballos presented the selection process and choice for the Faculty Senate Fellow position.

- The senate sub-committee created a rubric to evaluate and score the Senate Fellow applications. The senate will use the rubric, with suggested modifications, for future applicants.
- The selected candidate was Dr. Araceli Ortiz, research associate professor, LBJ Institute for STEM Education and Research in the College of Education.
- The senate discussed the possibility of having the second place candidate work on their proposed project through the faculty development office.

Parliamentary procedure (Senate Chair White)

There was a question raised about how senate meetings are conducted and whether or not the senate should follow a more formal set of rules such as [Robert's Rules of Order or parliamentary procedure](#).

- After discussion of a motion to employ parliamentary procedure at its meetings, the senate voted to table the issue.

Faculty Concerns (Senate Chair White)

The senate discussed several faculty concerns/suggestions:

- A faculty member suggested that the university institute a staff recognition program similar to one at the University of Iowa (<https://clas.uiowa.edu/human-resources/staff-recognition-thank-you-program>). After discussion the senate voted unanimously to support the issue and forward the suggestion to the Staff Council for further action.
- A faculty member suggested that the senate encourage the university to sign up for the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (<https://idhe.tufts.edu/nslve>). After discussion the senate voted to forward the recommendation to the student government.
- A faculty member suggested the senate pursue getting paper copies of the New York Times on campus with a campus-wide site license. After discussion and consultation with the Alkek Library representative, the senate found that the campus already has access to the newspaper through online sources. No action was taken.
- A faculty member suggested that graduate students parking on Friday afternoons on the SM campus be given access to close-in parking for special events. The senate discussed the issue and decided to pass the request on to the student Graduate House of Representatives for their consideration.

Assignment of policy reviews

- AA/PPS 01.02.03 Guidelines for the Formation of Advisory Councils. Due April 16. (Senate Chair White)
- UPPS 03.04.06 Nonresident Alien-Honorarium. Due April 17. (Senator Bowman)
- UPPS 04.04.30 University Leave Policy. Due April 17. (Senator Martin)
- UPPS 04.04.53 Honors and Benefits for Retired Faculty and Staff. Due April 18. (Senate Chair White)
- UPPS 04.01.02 Information Resources Identity. Due April 18. (Senator Garcia)
- UPPS 05.04.10 University Identity Theft Prevention Program. Due April 18. (Senator Nolan)

- UPPS 02.01.02 International Inter-Institutional Agreement Policy and Procedures. Due April 20. (Senate Chair White)
- UPPS 04.04.51 Phased Retirement. Due April 20. (Senators Vacaflores and Conroy)
- AA/PPS Procedures for Awarding Faculty Merit Raises. Due April 23. (Senators Hindson and Conroy)

Approval of minutes

Approval of the April 4, 2018, minutes tabled until the April 18 Faculty Senate meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Minutes submitted by David Nolan