

October 19, 2011 Minutes

Members present: Morey, Stone, Furney, Sanders, Wilson, Cavitt, Melzer, Hindson, Feakes, Ash, Kimmel, Conroy, Winek, Czyzewska

Guests: McKenzie (*Star*)

Meeting called to order at 4:00.

Announcements:

1. The four finalists for the position of Associate Provost recently met with CAD. The selected candidate will begin work on January 1, 2012.
2. The PAAG meeting has been rescheduled for November 2.

Faculty Development Leave Process: The Senate received 37 applications. All required documents have been scanned and placed on the Senate's TRACS site. This year, the Senate will use a rubric to score applications. Senators will bring tentative scores to the 10/26 and 11/2 meetings, discuss the proposals, finalize scores, and then tabulate scores to develop a ranking based on average score awarded.

New Committee Name and Representation: Roughly 150 eligible faculty expressed an interest in serving on the Senate's new committee for non-tenure-track faculty. From those, Senators selected two representatives from each college, as well as two alternates per college. Senators suggested that the committee be called the Adjunct Faculty Committee, but urged the Committee members to vote on an appropriate name. The new Committee will meet once each semester, the Vice Chair of the Senate serving as Chair and reporting to the Senate on issues of concern.

New Business:

1. The Public Art Committee as outlined in UPPS 08.03.04 sec. 3.02 did not participate in recommending art for the new Performing Arts Center, an apparent breach of the policy governing the purchase of art for new buildings. It was also noted that the Public Art Committee meeting minutes have not been sent to the University Archives as specified in 03.06 of the UPPS. The Chair will investigate.
2. The ASG has submitted a request to the Provost that the University explore the possibility of using a plus / minus grading system at Texas State.
3. A faculty member expressed concerns about overcrowding in the Quad created by the nearby construction, particularly as it affects those who are handicapped.
4. Faculty have noted that the Banner system now allows students to cite "incompatibility with professor" as a reason for dropping a course. The Chair will investigate from where this new option arose.
5. A faculty member asked that the Senate correct discrepancies between the *Senate Standing Rules* and current practice on the URC regarding members' terms. Appointments should be based upon the academic term, not the calendar year.

Minutes of 10/12/11 were approved.

Adjournment.