

Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, May 4, 2016
JCK 11th Floor, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Attending

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

Faculty Senate Fellow: Andrew Marks

Guests: Denise Trauth (President); Gene Bourgeois (Provost); Cynthia Opheim (Associate Provost); Faculty Senators-Elect Janet Bezner (HP) and Vincent Luizzi (LA); Faculty Senate Liaison Selene Hinojosa (Library); Tom Grimes (Journalism); *University Star* reporters Lesly De Leon and Brigeda Hernandez

Meeting called to order at 4 p.m. by Senate Chair Conroy

Presidential Academic Advisory Committee (PAAG)

- Promotion and Tenure cycle
 - 100% of the applications for promotion and tenure that reached the President and Provost have been approved. The president and provost commended the achievements of the faculty whose files they reviewed. Five applications for full professor were declined at the department or college levels.
 - Comments sent forward from departmental and college levels are more thorough.
 - Process is working well because problems are being better addressed at candidates' third year reviews.
- Budget forecast
 - Due to drop in oil prices, there is a broad-based perception that the Texas economy is tight.
 - Some legislators feel that future tuition increases are not warranted.
 - Texas State's Hazlewood obligations have reached \$18 million.
 - It requires dedication of \$5 million to provide a 3% faculty merit pool, which has been set in place for FY18.
- Witliff Collections acquisition
 - Chancellor is in the process of negotiating for the purchase of an as yet unspecified acquisition.
- Presidential Fellow inquiry received
 - President Trauth is still reviewing applications for the Texas State Presidential Fellow for 2016-2017 with a decision to be announced soon.
 - Tarleton State University's Faculty Senate has inquired about the program and intends to take steps to initiate such a program at their institution.
- Other
 - Discussion of the implications for strategic plan and master plan in terms of promoting shared research spaces and the limited resources available to support new academic programs. New space needs should not be prioritized in unit planning.
 - President Trauth has requested feedback from Student Government, Alumni Association, and Staff Council regarding proposed change to Alma Mater lyrics.

Campus Master Plan, Smith Group JJR

- Team from Smith Group JJR presented an overview of the master plan process, including meeting with larger committees, as well as smaller focus groups, to solicit ideas, insights, and begin to identify areas of concern
- Interactive website for providing feedback

- Team will return to campus in September to share larger development concepts and begin process to streamline overall plan

Other

- Nancy Nussbaum offered update on Loop 82 construction
 - Unavoidable construction delays due to weather
 - Currently creating new routing of Post Road
 - Overpass construction to begin in Spring 2017
- May Bulletin finalized
- Committee assignments discussion to continue
- Senate Gift Account
 - Subcommittee appointed (Senators Bell-Metereau and Bishop) to make recommendations for use of the funds
- Proposed Faculty Development Leave application review process to be presented at May 11 meeting

Approval of April 27 meeting minutes

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

~Minutes submitted by Lynn Ledbetter